

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 DECEMBER 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Kuwait's *AL-QABAS*, citing a "high-level" diplomatic source, revealed that Iraq will receive "advanced" Soviet defensive weapons that have never before been given to a country outside the Warsaw Pact, according to QNA. The paper added that an Iraqi military delegation left for Moscow 18 December as part of the implementation of the new agreement.

Maghreb Affairs

The Algiers Daily *EL MOUDJAHID* castigated opposition leaders Hocine Ait Ahmed and Ahmed Ben Bella in a commentary cited by APS, condemning the "high level advertising campaign waged from abroad" by "sowers of confusion." These "trouble-makers" are ill advised to speak of human rights and democracy because in the past they were "the worst torturers and the most notorious totalitarians," the paper maintained.

At a London press conference reported by MAP, Ben Bella and Ait Ahmed claimed that their movement enjoys the support of the "living forces" in Algeria and they described the present system as a "backward" form of the Soviet regime. Ben Bella also criticized Algeria's Western Sahara policy, asserting that Morocco must remain united and that it is not in Algeria's interest to undermine Morocco's territorial integrity.

In another development concerning the Western Sahara, the president of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR) announced the composition of a new SDAR government, according to Algiers radio.

As for Tunisian affairs, TAP noted the Tunisian foreign minister's arrival in Moscow for talks with leading Soviet officials.

Egyptian-Libyan Relations

Citing an "Egyptian presidential source," Kuwait's *AL-RAY* *AL-'AMM* asserted that Libyan leader Colonel mu'ammad al-

Qadhafi will visit Cairo in the "first 10 days" of January accompanied by "an Arab president whose country maintains close ties with Egypt," according to KUNA. The source also told the paper that Al-Qadhafi's desire to make the visit was conveyed to Egypt by an Arab president. Monitored Egyptian and Libyan media have neither confirmed nor denied that the visit will take place.

Sudan

Minister of Finance and Economic Planning 'Awad 'Abd al-Majid resigned 18 December, SUNA reported. The minister attributed his decision to the Council of Ministers' lack of confidence in him as illustrated by their rejection of his proposed economic policies.

Israel and Africa

Israel and the Ivory Coast have agreed to resume diplomatic relations, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres announced in an interview broadcast by Jerusalem television after meeting with the Ivory Coast president in Geneva. Peres subsequently predicted that Israel will establish relations with four other African countries in the near future, Jerusalem radio reported.

Syria

On Syria's deployment of SAM-2's near the Lebanese border, an *AL-BATH* editorial cited by Damascus radio sharply criticized the United States for joining with Israel in expressing concern about the movement of defensive weapons inside Syrian territory while remaining absolutely silent over Israeli air "provocations" in the Al-Nabk area of Syria. The United States neither condemned these Israeli overflights nor asked Israel to stop them, the paper added, stressing that it was not Syrian planes that flew over Tel Aviv, but Israeli planes that flew in a "provocative manner a few kilometers from Damascus."

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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Arab League's Klibi Receives USSR Envoy, Message
LD171301 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1110 GMT 17 Dec 85

[Text] Tunis, 17 Dec (TAP) — Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi yesterday received the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tunis, Karakanov, who said afterwards that the meeting was a continuation of the contacts he held recently with the Arab League secretary general on the friendly relations between the USSR and the Arab countries.

He pointed out that during the meeting he affirmed the USSR's support for Arab causes, foremost of which is the cause of the Palestine people. He added that the meeting also covered a review of the fruitful cooperation between the USSR and the Arab League.

It was learned from a source close to the Arab League secretary general that the Soviet charge d'affaires conveyed a message from Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to Chadli Klibi.

The Arab League secretary general also received the Polish charge d'affaires in Tunis, Jerzy Adamczek, who said that the discussions covered Polish-Arab relations.

PLO Representative on Palestinian State of Alert
GF172030 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1738 GMT 17 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Dec (SUNA) — Referring to recent reports that the Palestinian forces in Sudan have been put on a state of maximum alert, PLO representative in Khartoum Muhammad 'Abbas Abu Raja'i said that the PLO's belief, coupled with information from some countries with which the PLO has good relations, is that there is an aggressive scheme against the Palestinian people and their representative, which necessitates maximum alertness in the current circumstances.

In a statement to SUNA, Abu Raja'i said that what is meant by a state of extreme alert is the bolstering of readiness and alertness among Palestinian elements in Sudan so that they will be ready in case of any hostile action against them.

Abu Raja'i said that the Palestinians, who were hosted by the Arab countries after their departure from Beirut in 1983, respect the sovereignty of these countries and obey their laws. He said that the Palestinian groups and the supreme concerned sides in the Arab countries that are hosting them hold consultations and discuss all issues concerning the Palestinian existence in these countries.

In his statement, he criticized the unlimited Zionist terrorism, pointing out that U.S. hostility toward the PLO has escalated with the escalation of the PLO military presence inside the occupied territories; this hostility is such that it prevents the discussion of a solution to the Middle East problem.

It should be noted that Abu Raja'i recently made a statement to the Abu Dhabi-based newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, in which he said that the Palestinian forces in Sudan and Yemen have been put on a state of maximum alert following serious concerns about flights by unfriendly planes over the Red Sea region.

PLO Radio Details 16 Dec Attack on IDF Vehicle
JN171752 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1648 GMT 17 Dec 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

In accordance with instructions, one of our combat groups operating inside the occupied homeland yesterday used incendiary bombs to attack a Zionist military vehicle on a branch road between (Yarhayth) and (Posh'arif) in the central region of the Palestinian territory occupied in 1948. The vehicle was burned and its occupants suffered various injuries. Despite the armed security cordon around the scene of operation and Zionist precautionary measures, our combat group managed to withdraw from the area successfully. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The Zionist enemy radio admitted the operation but, as usual, did not refer to its losses.

PLO Radio on Operations Against Israeli, Lahd Forces
JN171857 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1648 GMT 17 Dec 85

[Text] Men of the Palestinian-National Lebanese joint forces used machineguns, rockets, and hand grenades to attack a Zionist military patrol on a road near the town of Layla in southern Lebanon yesterday. A Zionist vehicle carrying enemy soldiers was burned, a personnel carrier was damaged, a number of occupation soldiers were wounded, and two, one of them a lieutenant, were killed.

The men of the joint forces also launched a short-range rocket attack against a Zionist position near the town of (Kafr al-Hawa) in Bint Jubayl, southern Lebanon. A huge fire broke out in the position, a number of military vehicles were damaged, and a number of enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded.

Earlier yesterday, the joint forces launched a rocket attack on a military position belonging to the militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in the town of Safary near Jazzin. The position was destroyed and a large number of agent soldiers were either killed or wounded.

The enemy radio admitted these operations, but did not refer to the casualties and losses sustained by its forces and the agent militias. It said that its forces opened artillery and heavy machinegun fire on a number of villages in southern Lebanon. Heavy material damage was caused and a number of citizens were wounded.

Fighter Planes Overfly Arab Ships in Mediterranean
GF180750 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0632 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 Dec (WAKH) — Informed sources have revealed that last week fighter aircraft belonging to the Zionist enemy made flights over three Arab ships in the Mediterranean, which were sailing to a port in the Arab east.

The Abu Dhabi-based newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today quotes the sources as saying that the Zionist planes moved out of the area after Soviet planes appeared there. They believe that the Zionist planes' mission was to photograph the ships, which were carrying arms and military equipment.

This is the first time that warplanes belonging to the Zionist enemy have flown provocatively over Arab ships in the Mediterranean, and this coincides with the growing tension between the Zionist enemy and Syria.

A military report reaching Amman from the occupied Arab territories has affirmed the presence of large Zionist troop concentrations on the northern front with Syria.

The report in *AL-ITTIHAD* says that during the past few days the Zionist Air Force transported squadrons of advanced fighter

aircraft of the types F-15, F-16, and improved Phantoms, from their air bases in the Negev to air bases in northern occupied Palestine near the Syrian border. The report says that three new air bases for attack helicopters, aircraft especially intended to attack particular ground targets, namely "armored convoys," were recently established in northern Palestine.

The report links the Israeli concentrations and tension between Syria and the enemy following Zionist charges that Syria has moved anti-aircraft missile batteries to the Lebanese border which, according to Zionist allegations, constitute a threat to Israel.

It points out that the warnings of Zionist military officials have increased recently and they have begun to beat on the drums of war with Syria. This is what a Zionist military official referred to when he said that the occupied Palestinian cities are threatened by Arab ground-to-ground missiles able to reach the large cities.

The Zionist civil defense commander has warned that the Zionists are threatened by poisonous gases in any future war with Syria. He pointed out that precautionary measures have been taken to confront any bombardment of the cities with missiles.

KUWAIT

Official on USSR Role in Ending Gulf War*LD191044 Kuwait Kuna in English 0936 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 19 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Foreign Undersecretary Sulayman al-Shahin described the Soviet role as "essential" in finding a solution to the Iraq-Iran war.

In a press statement to Kuwaiti dailies published Thursday, Al-Shahin said the important cards of the Iraq-Iran war are now "gathered in Moscow".

On the Gulf Cooperation Council role in ending the Gulf war, the Kuwaiti diplomat said the GCC states are continuing their mediation efforts to put an end to this destructive war, expressing hope that these efforts will come out with positive results.

On the visit of British Secretary of State Geoffrey Howe to Kuwait on January 15, al-Shahin said Kuwaiti-British talks will deal with the Iraq-Iran war, the Middle East cause, the Euro-Gulf and Euro-Arab cooperation, in addition to bilateral relations between Kuwait and the United Kingdom.

The Kuwaiti undersecretary said the Soviet defense undersecretary, who will arrive Kuwait Saturday, will hold talks with several Kuwaiti officials on joint cooperation between Kuwait and the Soviet Union.

Al-Shahin noted that the Islamic countries' foreign ministers will hold their conference in Rabat, Morocco, on January 8-10, during which the ministers will focus on the implementation of recent Islamic summit resolutions and the problems facing the Islamic world.

Official Denies Bombs Found at Minister's Home*GF181209 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 17 Dec 85 p 1*

[Text] The director of the Kuwait defense minister's office, Husayn Dhiyab, yesterday denied reports that two bombs had been found in front of the residence of the minister, Shaykh Salim al-Sabah. Dhiyab said local newspapers must be sure of reports before they publish them.

Meanwhile, an official source at the Interior Ministry's Public Relations Department said a Kuwaiti had informed the police about the two bombs which were hidden between rocks on the coast at Ra's Al-Salimiya, "far away from Shaykh Salim's residence." The two bombs were not set to explode when they were found, he said.

Construction of Pipeline to Red Sea Planned*WA181000 Kuwait AL-TALI'AH in Arabic 20 Nov 85 p 6*

[Text] AL-TALI'AH has learned from very reliable sources that an agreement was reached by the Gulf Cooperation Council to construct a network of pipelines to transport crude oil to Red Sea ports in order to diminish the dangers facing the transport of oil

across the Gulf waters as a result of the continuous war between Iran and Iraq.

AL-TALI'AH has learned that included in these plans is a pipeline which would extend from the Gulf coast to the port of 'Aqubah. Kuwait will take advantage of these plans by constructing a line from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia to link up with existing pipelines that extend to the Red Sea. The capacity of the Kuwaiti pipeline will be 600,000 barrels of oil daily.

It is well-known that the Gulf Cooperation Council states had agreed amongst themselves during the oil ministers' meeting that if any GCC country is subjected to an oil interruption as a result of the war, the other GCC members would help by exporting oil for this country in an amount equivalent to its share of production in the OPEC quota system.

OMAN

USSR Official Thanks Qabus for Anniversary Cable*GF171554 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Dec 85*

["Text" of thank you cable sent by the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, in response to the congratulatory cable sent by Sultan Qabus on the 68th anniversary of the Great October Revolution — date not given]

[Text] Your Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, Omani Sultan, Muscat. Please accept our thanks for the warm congratulations and good wishes you sent to us on the 68th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. We share with you your wishes that the relations between the USSR and Oman will grow further in the interest of the peoples of the two countries.

King Receives Thanks in Cable From Gromyko*GF181336 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] His Majesty King Fabd has received a thank you cable from His Excellency Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in reply to his majesty's cable to him on the USSR's national day. In his cable, his excellency expressed his sincere wishes for lasting health and success for his majesty the king, and prosperity for the people of the Kingdom.

UAE

President Departs for Visit to Morocco*GF190758 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0715 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Dec (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, left Abu Dhabi today for Rabat on a visit to Morocco, during which he will meet with King Hassan II.

His highness the president's visit to Rabat is within the continued efforts of the Arab reconciliation committee, formed by the

Casablanca Arab summit, to achieve reconciliation between Libya and Iraq, and also between the PLO and Libya.

Official sources in Abu Dhabi said that His Highness Shaykh Zayid will also discuss with the Moroccan king the developments of the Arab situation within the framework of the continuing consultation and coordination between the two leaders in order to achieve a unified Arab stand regarding the current situation.

Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister Continues Visit

Discusses Trade Relations

*GF181328 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic
0930 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] Finance and Industry Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid received in his office before noon today Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Gabor Nagy who is currently visiting the UAE. During the meeting they discussed ways of bolstering the existing trade relations between the UAE and Hungary.

Proposes Cooperation Agreement

LD182013 Kuwait KUNA in English 1101 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Dec 18 (KUNA) — Visiting Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Gabor Nagy proposed signing an economic cooperation agreement between his country and the United Arab Emirates.

The proposal came during a meeting here last night with the UAE Undersecretary of Economy and Commerce Ministry Abdul Ra'out al-Mubarak. The two officials examined augmenting the volume of bilateral trade exchange and establishing a number of joint economic, commercial, agricultural and health enterprises.

Nagy met also with first deputy board chairman of Abu Dhabi chamber of commerce and industry Abdullah al-Mahrabi, who asserted the importance of developing trade relations with Hungary, adding that Abu Dhabi's imports from Hungarian products in 1984 were estimated at 15.5 million UAE dirhams (one dollar equals 3.67 dirhams), with an increase of 7.5 percent compared to last year's figures.

Iranian Minister Meets Commerce Minister

GF180932 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Dubayy, 18 Dec (WAKH) — Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid, minister of finance and industry, met in Dubayy today with Hasan 'Abedi-Ja'fari, Iranian commerce minister. During the meeting, which was attended by Sayf al-Jarwan, minister of economy and trade, they discussed the means of developing trade relations between the two countries.

YAR

President Addresses Military Graduates

*GF181400 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Excerpts] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, yesterday attended the graduation ceremony of a number of new groups of cadres from military academies.

At the end of the ceremony, Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih delivered an important instructional speech. He began by thanking the general staff of education and the teaching staffs at the military schools, institutions, and training centers for the efforts that they have made to train these cadres who will add new educated blood to the Armed Forces and the security forces.

The brother leader president said: Brothers, we are implementing all that has been announced and planned. On the 23d anniversary of the eternal 26 September Revolution, we announced that 1985 to 1986 is the year of turning out new qualified cadres on all levels inside the country and abroad. The rebuilding of military schools and the establishment of institutions and training centers is an implementation of the motto of the Armed Forces and the security forces.

In his speech, the brother leader president referred to the condition of military schools and institutions in the past. He recalled the attempts and schemes to close down the academies following the closure of numerous military schools under the pretext of having sufficient numbers of Army and security forces officers. He affirmed that those attempts were aimed at destroying the Army and the security forces.

The president added: By virtue of sincere efforts and the nationalist revolutionary elements inside and outside the Armed Forces and the security forces, all those treasonous schemes were confronted and we directed our efforts at rebuilding the Armed Forces and the security forces in a modern and scientific way that is in keeping with the circumstances of the age. The results of this rebuilding are being perceived by our people now, and they go on all the time. Every month or every few weeks, we celebrate the graduation of new batches, both on the level of the military schools and institutions, and on the level of the graduation of cadres from combat units so that we will raise the Armed Forces to the standard that we require and to which we aspire.

The brother leader president affirmed that the building of the Armed Forces and the security forces is an inevitable need required by the progress and development which our country is witnessing in various fields. He pointed out that this nationalist institution which has pledged itself to God and the homeland will be the faithful guardian which preserves the sovereignty and independence of the homeland, the revolution's principles, and the liberties of the masses, and defends the democratic process which our people are experiencing. He said that this institution will remain a symbol of obedience, good conduct, and discipline, and a strong shield for the defense of the development process. It

will also be the school from which others learn discipline, obedience, and the preservation of public right.

The brother leader president remarked that all the achievements which are being made are achieved through those vigilant eyes which are stationed at the top of every hill, in every plain, and in the valleys. He asserted that without a strong Army and strong security forces which are capable and which have received modern scientific training, it would not have been possible to make those achievements and to continue them, or to erect this proud edifice in the homeland of the September revolution, the setting up of which pleases our friends and angers our enemies.

He stressed that our Armed Forces and security forces must be armed with vigilance and knowledge in order to confront the enemies of the revolution, of development and progress, and honorable and noble principles.

In his address to the graduates of the military schools and institutions, the brother leader president and secretary general referred to the results of the prospecting for natural resources, following the announcement that oil discoveries in the Ma'rib-al-Jawf basin are suitable for commercial exploitation. He affirmed that this wealth will not be for dishonest purposes, luxury, or showing off. It is the wealth of the people — all the people — who have long looked forward to it, he said. It will be used to compensate our people for the progress and development which they have missed and of which they have long been deprived as a result of the defunct imam's rule, in the fields of road building, the expansion of the electric power network, the completing of the building of schools, medical centers and hospitals, and the development of agriculture, the building of dams, and other modern facilities.

The brother leader referred in his speech to the gigantic educational development and the entrenchment of security and stability witnessed in our country under the umbrella of the revolution. The number of the Republic's students reached 1.139 million in the scholastic year 1985-86. The brother leader stressed the need to multiply efforts to reinforce the comprehensive development being witnessed by our country in the presence of security and stability, in addition to the power of national unity that has taken further root through intellectual and political efforts as represented in the National Charter.

He referred to the difficult conditions under which our people lived in the past and the state of isolation which engulfed our people. It was difficult, in the prerevolution period, to facilitate meetings between the people in the north with their brothers in the south, as well as meetings between the people in the eastern region with their brothers in western region. This could be attributed to the lack of transportation. The revolution achievements in this field, and in all fields, have helped to entrench national unity and to ensure that all the children of our people in Al-Hudaydah, Ta'izz, Sanaa, Dhamar, and Ma'rib or in any other regions could come together. They all embody the national unity in its brightest form through firm cohesion, believing in one faith and common goals and struggling to attain sublime goals. The brother leader emphasized that the procession of the revolution is mushrooming and that the wheel of history

will persistently proceed forward owing to the unstinting struggle and the national affiliation of all the children of our people.

Concluding his speech, he said: On this occasion I reiterate my congratulations to you, to every officer, NCO, and soldier of the armed Forces and the audacious security forces. You must be armed with vigilance, education, and knowledge. Everything is worthless without education and knowledge. We are combating all forms of ignorance which we inherited from the imam era and which dominated our people for thousands of years. Greetings to every officer, NCO, soldier of the Armed Forces and the security forces. Long live the revolution and the Republic! God's peace and mercy be upon thee.

Official Leaves for Congress Meetings in Libya

GF161602 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, permanent secretary of the Standing Committee, left for Libya today carrying a message from Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to Brother Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. In a statement to the SABA' News Agency, Dr al-Asbahi said the message deals with bilateral relations and recent issues in the Arab and international arenas. He said that during his visit to Libya he will attend the third session of the people's congresses, leading a delegation of the Standing Committee and the General People's Congress. He pointed out that his visit is a continuation of earlier meetings held in Sanaa and Tripoli between members of the General People's Congress and the Standing Committee in the YAR and members of the General People's Congress in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The purpose of the meetings is to continue coordination on issues that were discussed during the previous meetings, within the framework of serious Arab action and in the interest of Arab unity and to confront the Zionist enemy, since events have proved that our conflict with Zionism is a battle for existence, which necessitates escalation of struggle and unity of Arab ranks.

Company Reports Commercial Oil Discovery

GF141942 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office this evening Mr (Rihent), chairman of the board of directors of the (Hent) Oil Company. The latter submitted to the president a detailed report on the progress of oil prospecting in the Ma'rib-al-Jawf basin. He affirmed that the oil discovered in the area has reached a commercial level. SABA' news agency has learned that detailed studies for developing this discovery, which include building a pipeline to the exporting port on the Red Sea, are now under way. The news agency has also learned that oil exports are expected to begin early in 1987.

PRC Foreign Minister Arrives for 3-Day Visit

NC181420 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 3-day visit to Egypt. In an arrival statement, Minister Wu Xueqian said that the PRC supports the Arab and Palestinian people in their efforts to regain the Arab lands occupied in 1967, and to restore the usurped rights of the Palestinian people. He added that the PRC always supports Egypt in its endeavors to achieve peace in the Middle East region and to solve the Tabah issue.

Makes Arrival Statement

NC181635 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Excerpts] PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 3-day visit to Egypt. The PRC foreign minister expressed his country's support for the convocation of an international peace conference in the Middle East under UN auspices. He hoped that the Arab states would be able to adopt a unified stand that would allow such a conference to be held. The Middle East is witnessing fast and complicated developments, he added. His visit to Egypt is an opportunity to be briefed by Egyptian friends on their views regarding such developments. He praised PRC-Egyptian relations, which have existed for more than 30 years. He described these bilateral relations as friendly and close, and noted that they are developing continuously in all fields. The PRC, he added, is eager to intensify its contacts with Egypt and to increase reciprocal visits by senior officials, thereby bolstering existing relations. In this respect, the foreign minister pointed to the three visits which President Mubarak has made to the PRC. These visits, he affirmed, prove that our bilateral relations are cordial and based on mutual respect.

Minister Wu Xueqian noted that his visit to Egypt is part of a tour he is undertaking to a number of Arab countries, including Iraq, Jordan, Syria, and the UAE. His talks with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid this evening, he added, will deal with issues of mutual interest, particularly the Middle East issue and bilateral relations. The PRC foreign minister was received at the airport by Wafa' Hijazi, assistant foreign minister, and Muhsin al-Diwani, director of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department.

Talks Begin

NC182217 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Dec (MENA) — Official talks between Egypt and the PRC began at the Foreign Ministry here tonight. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, led the Egyptian delegation to the talks. The PRC delegation was led by Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, who arrived in Cairo this afternoon.

On the Egyptian side, the talks were also attended by Ambassador Muhsin Fahmi; Wafa' Hijazi, assistant foreign minister; Muhyi al-Din Khafajah, head of the Asian Department at the Foreign Ministry; 'Izz al-Din Musharraf, head of the Cultural

Department at the Foreign Ministry; and Wafiq Husni, head of the Economic Department at the Foreign Ministry. The members of the delegation accompanying the PRC foreign minister represented the Chinese side at the talks.

Following the talks, which lasted for 2 hours and 45 minutes, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement remains the keystone of the Middle East peace process.

The Egyptian and PRC delegations reviewed the Middle East situation in light of recent developments in the region. The two delegations discussed the Iraq-Iran war and expressed their hope that it would soon be brought to an end. The effects of this war are debilitating for both sides. They also praised the existing close bilateral relations and stressed the need to strengthen them in all fields.

The PRC foreign minister expressed his satisfaction with the talks, describing them as fruitful and most cordial. We had a full discussion of such matters as bilateral relations and international issues of common concern, Wu Xueqian said. He also voiced the belief that his current visit to Egypt would have a positive impact on the friendship between the two nations.

For his part, Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed that the two sides were in agreement on all the international topics discussed. He added that they had agreed to keep in touch through the exchange of visits by officials and experts from both countries.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid also said that the talks had been fruitful and very useful for both sides. He said that a subcommittee of members of the two delegations will meet tomorrow, Thursday, to discuss bilateral economic cooperation in depth.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid praised the firm and solid relations between Egypt and the PRC and expressed satisfaction at the PRC foreign minister's visit here. He said that Egypt could not forget how China had stood by it as all times. 'Abd al-Majid referred to the great Egyptian and Chinese civilizations. He said that the Egyptians, like the Chinese, are proud of their culture, and noted that Egypt is much interested in the spectacular reforms taking place in the PRC.

Ministers' Dinner Speeches

NC182301 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Dec (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, expressed Egypt's appreciation of the PRC's sustained support for the rights and just causes of the Arab people. He referred particularly to the Palestinian issue and the right of the Palestinian people to establish their own state on their own soil, under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. Speaking at a dinner banquet which he hosted for the visiting PRC foreign minister tonight, Dr 'Abd al-Majid praised the firm positions consistently taken by the PRC in support of the people of this region against every kind of aggression. Such stands, he said, will be recorded in history's brightest pages. 'Abd al-Majid also expressed his desire to see the PRC play an active role in

establishing peace and stability in the Middle East by means of its permanent membership in the UN Security Council. 'Abd al-Majid described this body as having a major role to play in the region. We are looking forward to working together for the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, for an end to the internecine Iraq-Iran conflict, and for the establishment of a new international economic order and a new world system for media and communications, he said.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid also pointed out that the close relations between Egypt and the PRC cover the political, military, cultural, and commercial fields. He added that there is much scope to broaden and cement bilateral cooperation. Dr 'Abd al-Majid expressed a desire to set up a joint Egyptian-PRC ministerial committee to supervise the work of the already existing committee and to boost bilateral relations. The PRC, he said, is now constructing an international conference hall in Cairo. This edifice will bear witness to our close relations.

The PRC foreign minister responded with a speech in which he expressed his pleasure at being here and pointed to the traditionally close links between the two nations and to the importance of their cooperation in all fields. He also praised Egypt's Middle East peace efforts, stressing his country's support for such efforts and for Palestinian rights.

Envoy Delivers Message From USSR Leadership

NC191250 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1235 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with the Soviet ambassador in Cairo today. After the meeting, the Soviet ambassador told our radio correspondent that he had delivered a message from the Soviet leadership to the Egyptian leadership on the continuing political dialogue between the two countries. He said that the Soviet Union is working to strengthen Soviet-Egyptian cooperation in all fields, particularly in the economic sphere. He noted that relations between the two countries are developing. He affirmed that the Soviet Union supports the convening of an international conference to solve the Middle East problem as quickly as possible. He also affirmed the Soviet Union's support in dealing with acts of terrorism. He said that the Soviet Union has condemned and will continue to condemn all acts of terrorism because they do not achieve the goals of those who carry them out.

'Abd al-Majid Welcomes Ugandan Peace Accord

NC181905 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Dec (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the Egyptian Government received with great relief the news of the peace accord signed in Nairobi by Ugandan President Tito Okello and National Resistance Army leader Yoweri Museveni. A Ugandan settlement has long been an African and Egyptian Quest. We have been waiting for this to happen so that the fraternal Ugandan people might be able to live in peace and prosperity and continue the march of development and progress

without hindrance. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that Egypt had paid close attention to the developments in Uganda with all the concern benefitting our historic relations with a friendly country which shares the great Nile River with us.

During the Ugandan crisis, 'Abd al-Majid said, Egyptian diplomacy spared no effort to end the unfortunate series of events that was taking place in this fraternal African country. The Ugandan peace accord, the foreign minister continued, is a triumph for African politics and interests, and crowns the many earnest endeavors by various African and international parties, including Egypt. He also praised the memorable role played by Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi in achieving this favorable outcome, enabling stability to be brought to fraternal Uganda.

Al-Baz Says Syria Must Join Peace Endeavors

Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has stated that Syria must join the endeavors to reach a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. In a statement to the Bahraini paper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ*, Al-Baz notes that the ongoing exchanges to reach such a settlement are based on the Jordanian-Palestinian joint agreement. He adds that Egypt is now working with two partners, Jordan and the PLO. But, he says, the day will come when Syria will take part in the peace process because it is a party to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and because part of its territory is still under Israeli occupation.

Ghali Returns From France, Switzerland Visits

NC182100 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1950 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Dec (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo this evening from Geneva, following a 10-day visit to France and Switzerland.

In an arrival statement, Dr Ghali said that he will submit a report to President Mubarak on the outcome of his trip to Paris and Geneva. He participated in four conferences, three in Paris and one in Geneva. Dr Ghali noted that the first was the ministerial conference of French-speaking African states held in preparation for the summit meeting. He added that he was honored to represent President Mubarak at the summit conference, in which 22 African countries took part. Dr Ghali went on to say that at the third conference ministers discussed the possibility of holding a conference of French-speaking countries. Egypt, along with Tunisia and Lebanon, took part in that meeting although it is not one of those countries. Dr Ghali said that the fourth conference was held in Geneva to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations. A group of experts from all over the world, who participated in the conference, undertook an assessment of UN activity in the field of economic cooperation between north and south.

The minister of state for foreign affairs had several meetings with a number of foreign ministers who took part in these conferences. Ways of bolstering bilateral relations were discussed.

Iraq To Obtain New Soviet Weapons 'Very Soon'*GF190707 Doha QNA in Arabic 0652 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Dec (QNA) — Press reports published in Kuwait today indicate that Iraq will very soon receive advanced Soviet weapons which it did not previously possess.

The reports, published by the newspaper *AL-QABAS* quoting a diplomatic source it described as "high-level," say that these weapons have not previously been given to any country outside the Warsaw Pact, although some of them have been put at the service of some friends.

The paper also quotes the source as saying that the new weapons will be defensive weapons. It says that an Iraqi military delegation yesterday left for Moscow within plans pertaining to the implementation of the new agreement.

RCC, Ba'th Party Praise Saddam's Moscow Visit*JN191214 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Text] President Saddam Husayn today presided over a joint meeting by the RCC and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command, during which the results of President Saddam Husayn's friendly working visit to the Soviet Union were reviewed.

INA has learned that the RCC and the Regional Command expressed their satisfaction with the results of the visit and its success in achieving its goals. They indicated that the visit has contributed to developing friendship and cooperation ties between Iraq and the Soviet Union and entrenched the principles on which these ties are based, particularly mutual respect and understanding and fruitful cooperation in all fields. They praised the atmosphere of amity and friendship which characterized the discussions held on all bilateral, regional, and international issues. They also praised the Iraqi and Soviet sides' satisfaction and determination to promote relations in all areas.

The RCC and the Command emphasized the importance of the visit in the current circumstances in the region, whether regarding Iran's insistence on continuing war and aggression and Iraq's determination to defend its security and sovereignty with high capability, besides working firmly for a just and honorable peace, or regarding the present circumstances of the Palestine question and the need to support the Palestinian Arab people's just struggle under the PLO along the road of attaining their legitimate aims, as well as the need to achieve Arab solidarity as a basic condition for bolstering the Arab position.

Communique Issued on 17-18 Dec Operations*JN181716 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Communique No 2,056 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 18 December 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces, given the military hardware they possess, their numbers, and their combat efficiency which has been proved by the great victories they are scoring in the battle of honor and dignity, the glorious battle of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah, are proud to be the intractable force that is confronting the nation's enemies.

The following is a roundup of our units' activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Our forward units in the II Army Corps central sector pounded enemy troop concentrations and positions, killing two, wounding others, destroying two infantry positions and one observation post, and setting one ammunition dump on fire.
2. Our able formations in the III Army Corps sector east of Basrah, using artillery and mortars, pounded enemy units opposite their positions, scoring direct hits, and inflicting on the enemy heavy losses in life and equipment. Elsewhere in the same sector, three enemy troops were killed and one firing position was destroyed.
3. One ammunition dump was destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, and one infantry position was destroyed and its occupants were killed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.
4. The forces of the despotic clique ruling Iran shelled Al-Faw with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 December 1985

IRNA Reports Kurds Kill 26 Iraqis in Sulaymaniyah*LD141827 Tehran IRNA in English 1713 GMT 14 Dec 85*

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Prov., Dec. 14, IRNA — Muslim Iraqi Kurdish freedom fighters ambushed an Iraqi vehicle column carrying Iraqi state forces in Sulaymaniyah Friday, killing at least 26 Iraqi soldiers and demolishing three vehicles of theirs, reported informed sources here Saturday.

The sources said that the Kurdish combatants, who were equipped with rocket-propelled-grenade launchers (RPG-7's) returned to their bases safely after the operation.

Karami Discusses Cabinet Meetings, Economy

NC181543 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1140 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Remarks by Prime Minister Rashid Karami in response to questions by unidentified correspondents following his meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil on 18 December — recorded]

[Text] [Karami] His excellency the president and I reviewed recent developments which I hope will produce positive results. The ministerial council has discussed matters with all objectivity to ensure that the Cabinet can meet in full. The statement released by the council in this regard makes me believe that the obstacles that had in the past obstructed the convening of the Cabinet have begun to disappear. We are about to achieve our goals.

As part of this comprehensive work, we met at Government House with the Committee that had made an in-depth study of the budget's provisions. We arrived at final figures and we asked the Finance Ministry to include them in the draft budget which I hope will be referred to the Chamber of Deputies soon.

Speaking of the difficult socio-economic situation and the rise in the value of the dollar, we must not forget to point out that the lifting of the fuel subsidy, which has been depicted as a move to protect the Lebanese pound and alleviate the budget and treasury deficit, is actually leading to a new fuel subsidy, although it was expected that the results would be completely the opposite. There is persistent talk in town that this plot [as heard] will ultimately affect the economic situation. This would bring renewed pressure on Lebanon to force it to submit and to capitulate. This coincides with the Israeli escalation, more talk about the Syrian missiles, and the U.S. Congress' move to cancel the allocation of funds to the UN emergency forces. All these issues should be the subject of our attention and concern. We must say outright that Lebanon, which has managed to stand fast all these difficult years, is not prepared to accept pressure from any side or any field. We support our national unity, sovereignty, and independence. We are against anyone who tries to prevent us from pursuing this sound road on which we will continue to stand fast. We are confident that the various sides, sects, and functionaries will come together on this liberation march to safeguard the country's independence, unity, and sovereignty.

We tell the United States and others: This will avail you nothing; try something else. Lebanon, which has managed to preserve the elements of its presence, can defend its fate and liberate its land.

As long as I am talking about the economy, I believe that the dollar and the lifting of the fuel subsidy and all other issues should be resolved by means of programs that would preserve this country's economic integrity and social strength. I must point here to legitimate and illegitimate gains. The waste, which is being exploited by certain militias and gangs, should not continue. We must take action based on our past experience so as to control revenues because these are one of the people's rights. I am very confident that all positive efforts will be pooled to make our action successful in salvaging our economy and advancing our citizens' interests.

I have received Brother Rafiq al-Hariri at the Presidential Palace. He conveyed to me the directives of his majesty, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who shares the sufferings of the Lebanese, and understands the pressures brought about by the continuation of their ordeal. We also discussed assistance to Tripoli following its own ordeal. The Saudis are ready to help restore normalcy to the city. This also applies to the other Lebanese areas. Our thanks to his majesty.

[Question] Despite the many pressing issues that you dealt with and which require in one way or another the convening of the Cabinet for resolution, we find that there are those who obstruct the convening of the Cabinet. How do you explain this?

[Karami] The circumstances that have prevented the Cabinet from meeting are known to everyone. I appeal to everyone to understand that we must convene the Cabinet so that it may assume its responsibilities and do everything necessary to make the lives of citizens easier, for they have suffered much. Acting out of our sense of duty, we shall work to facilitate matters and eliminate obstacles so that the Cabinet may meet as soon as possible. Hence, I again appeal to the various parties concerned to respond to this.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] If you are asking me what I think, I support the convening of a Cabinet meeting. The legitimacy is where his excellency the president is. It is a legitimacy that stems from his person and not from the venue of our sessions. In addition, if the security conditions for certain parties... [Karami changes thought] and if we want a plenary Cabinet meeting, this makes it incumbent upon us to consider practical and positive solutions. There is nothing standing in our way. If your question is one of constitutionality, the Cabinet must meet in the Presidential Palace. The Constitution states that the Presidential Palace must be in the capital, Beirut. However, if the country's supreme interests require us to sacrifice or bypass a given practice, I see no obstacle that could prevent a Cabinet meeting.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] What I said is that the budget was discussed at Government House by a joint committee, which included the general director of the Treasury and the chairman of its Budget Department. They conducted an objective and positive examination of all points, and reached a final agreement. This question was not discussed in the ministerial council.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] As a matter of fact, we do not even control the legal ports. That is why I have said we must regain control of the legal ports and put the others out of action. We can do this, for we have already had some successful experience in this area. If we are really eager to serve our people's interests, bring down the dollar, and check the speculators, we must resort to such drastic measures.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] A Cabinet meeting with any ministers who would attend [words indistinct] All these issues are being discussed, and we hope to have the Cabinet convene shortly, God willing.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] We talk these things over with his excellency the president. The purpose of any agreement we reach is to help our country.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] Ending the fuel subsidy was not a successful way of tackling the problems of the dollar's value, the economy, and society. Therefore, we must make a thorough study of this thorny issue in order to reach a solution that serves the interests of our people.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] A divided thing cannot be further subdivided. We must be realistic. Should we remain as we are, or should we look for courses of action that will bring us closer to a Cabinet meeting? We view the mini-ministerial council as a way of reaching a full Cabinet meeting.

[Question indistinct]

[Karami] We are in constant touch with Perez de Cuellar. We thank him for his response to and understanding of our views, which stem from the UN Security Council. As I have said, we will remain steadfast and faithful to our position, as it arises from our sovereignty and national interests. We demand that the others face up to their responsibilities and respond to the peoples' interests. I mean America, which must play an unbiased role, as Israel is the cause of the region's trouble.

[Question] Why aren't the rest of the ministers called to attend the (?ministerial council) meetings?

[Karami] For the same security reasons.

[Question] Doesn't Your Excellency go wherever you want?

[Karami] I have confidence in you and vice versa. I hope that everyone will have this confidence.

Paper on Latest Contacts on U.S., French Hostages
GF181546 Kuwait AL-RAY AL-'AMM in Arabic
 17 Dec 85 p 21

[“Exclusive” report from Beirut]

[Text] A joint Amal-Hizballah delegation is making a secret visit to Iran. The delegation includes security leaders from both Amal and Hizballah. The visit is to discuss the release of seven kidnapped Americans. Security sources have told *AL-RAY AL-'AMM* that it is believed that Hizballah, which has close ties with Tehran, is the party which is holding the seven American hostages in a place in western Beirut. These sources add that

international and local contacts which have been held with Hizballah and Amal to release these Americans have entered a critical stage. The efforts which British priest Terry Waite has been making in Beirut for the past month are part of the contacts. The sources told *AL-RAY AL-'AMM* that British mediator Waite is waiting for the results of the secret visit which the joint Amal-Hizballah delegation is making [to Iran] to bring about the release of the Americans, should Tehran's efforts in the current mediation help to bring this about.

The informed sources affirmed that the success of Waite's visit to Beirut will be determined by the reply which he will receive from Iran on the release of the Americans. Some security sources in Beirut have spread rumors that Hizballah is demanding that the United Kingdom mediate with Kuwait for what it called the release of detainees who belong to the Islamic Al-Da'wah party, which has political and organizational relations with Hizballah, in exchange for the release of the seven Americans. The sources said that Terry Waite discussed the issue with scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah. Consequently, the Amal Movement intervened to secure the release of the Americans as a result of pressures which have been put on it. That is why Amal proposed the formation of this joint delegation with Hizballah in order to visit Iran and explore the Iranian leadership's views on this step.

AL-RAY AL-'AMM has learned that France believes that the four French hostages are detained by Amal, which is led by Minister Nabih Birri. Security sources have disclosed to *AL-RAY AL-'AMM* that Amal informed French officials of its readiness to release the French hostages in return for France's pressures on Israel to release some Amal detainees in Israeli prisons. *AL-RAY AL-'AMM* has learned that the 48-hour visit which Roland Dumas, French minister of external relations, made to Israel came after France's success in convincing the Israelis to release Amal Movement member Tony Abu Ghanim, who was received by Amal leader Nabih Birri in his office after his return from the Israel's 'Atlit prison. However, this successful French step with Israel was not complete because Amal presented a list of some of its leaders who are detained by Israel to be released in exchange for the release of the four French hostages held in Beirut. *AL-RAY AL-'AMM* has learned that Amal asked France to seek Israel's release of Tony Abu Ghanim and another Amal member by the name of Ni'mah Shahin. Security sources in Beirut speculated that Amal has not released the French hostages because France has not succeeded in releasing Shahin who is believed to have died in 'Atlit Prison following his torture in Israel.

At any rate, contacts between Amal and the French officials on the release of the French hostages continue. It is possible that these hostages will be released despite Amal's insistence that Israel release Lebanese detainees in 'Atlit.

France Ready To Offset U.S. Funds for UNIFIL
NC190727 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
 0615 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] UNIFIL sources told the Voice of Lebanon this morning that France has expressed its readiness to offset the loss of U.S. funds for UNIFIL in the south provided these forces are under

its command. However, the United Nations has not agreed to this so far.

Birri Leaves for Damascus To Hold Talks

NC181528 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction, left Beirut for Damascus this afternoon. He will hold discussions with Syrian officials on Lebanese developments connected with the current exchanges on the crisis, the situation in the south, and the Israeli and U.S. stands on the flight of Israeli warplanes in Lebanese skies and the reduction in U.S. financial support for UNIFIL.

Jewish Council Reports 7th Person Kidnapped

NC181843 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] The Higher Council of the Lebanese Jewish community has disclosed that a seventh Jew has been abducted in addition

to the six who have already been kidnapped. The council called for the release of all the Lebanese Jews being held captive.

Three Teachers Kidnapped in West Beirut

LD181208 Paris Domestic Service in French
1100 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Still more kidnappings in Lebanon: Three teachers from the 'Abd al-Qadir School, administered by the French Cultural Mission, were kidnapped yesterday afternoon in the western part of Beirut where there are a majority of Muslims. All three are Christians and they were kidnapped by armed men as they prepared to cross the demarcation line to go into the Christian sector of Beirut. There has been no news of them since.

AL-THAWRAH Urges 'Blows' to U.S. Interests*JN191002 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Text] Damascus, 19 Dec (SANA) — In a commentary today, the newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* says: It is no coincidence that the United States has decided to grant Israel more than \$3 billion as new economic aid at this particular time. The time of this aid has serious political implications because it is basically linked to the hostile war preparations being made by Israel to embark on a new military adventure in the region.

The paper adds: Regardless of the propagandist economic nature of this aid, it can be emphasized that the U.S. Administration is playing the role of Israel's full partner because it is the funds and modern sophisticated weapons given liberally to Israel that encourage it to escalate tension in the Middle East and seriously consider large-scale war operations against the Arab countries.

The paper points out that when the U.S. Administration renews its political and military commitment to Israel's expansionist war schemes by liberally giving it financial and economic aid, it proves to the whole world that it has no independent policy in the Middle East and that its diplomatic moves are always aimed at implementing what Tel Aviv wants.

Concluding, *AL-THAWRAH* says: In view of this alarming situation, it should be emphasized that the Arabs are supposed to deal with the United States from the premise of its being Israel's partner in aggression. They should seriously consider using all available methods to reply to this blatant U.S. defiance and pare the nails of Israel's escalating hostility by dealing painful blows to U.S. interests.

Reaction to Further Israeli Remarks on Missiles*JN181438 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, Israel's rulers are continuing their campaign to escalate tension in the region based on the fabricated issue they call Syria's movement of anti-aircraft missiles inside Syrian territory near the Syrian-Lebanese border. Statements made by Israel's political and military leaders contain tacit threats and hint at possible aggression. These statements are accompanied by tricky remarks that they do not intend to push matters with Syria toward confrontation.

This morning Israeli Deputy Chief of Staff General Dan Shomron made a statement on Israel Radio's Hebrew program in which he said that Israel is capable of destroying the Syrian missiles. This new threat by Shomron is a continuation of threats by Chief of Staff Moshe Levi and other Israeli officials and is new evidence that the Israeli campaign is fabricated, planned, and aimed at increasing tension in the region in a fabricated way as well as at hinting of a possible armed conflict. All this comes at a time when the international community, represented in the UN General Assembly and world public opinion, is calling upon Israel to relinquish its aggressive policy, the Arab territory

occupied by force, and the Arab Palestinian people's national rights which it seized in violation of the law.

The Israeli rulers are the parties who created wars and armed conflicts. They are also the ones who created the hotbed and threat of war in the region. UN records contain much evidence on this, as well as many resolutions condemning the Israeli rulers' acts, practices, policies, and wars. Those Israeli rulers, together with their protectors the U.S. rulers, are responsible for the delicate and serious situation in the region and for all the consequences which may result from their beating of the war drums and their spreading of the atmosphere of tension.

The U.S. rulers cannot absolve themselves from their responsibility toward Israeli rulers' acts and practices. The two-faced statements made by the U.S. rulers encourage the Israeli ones. In addition to their remarks on self-control, these statements tacitly support Israeli flights in Lebanese airspace. This matter encroaches on international law, norms, and states' rights to their sovereignty while craftily criticizing Syria's movement of its defensive missiles inside its own territory.

If some people in Washington believe that encouraging Israel's rulers to carry out provocations and create tension can help Murphy's mission in the region and save the failing U.S. process to impose partial and separate solutions, this belief is completely mistaken. The results will be contrary to what the United States seeks. The U.S. Administration encouraged Israel to invade Lebanon so as to employ the invasion and occupation in the interest of the U.S. process to impose capitulation on the Arabs. What were the results? Military and political failure for Israel as well as the United States. The clever politicians are those who learn from lessons and experiences.

Employing the subject of the Syrian missiles to exacerbate the situation in the region and block international efforts to tackle the situation in an international conference within a UN framework is a process against peace and peace efforts in the region. This process discloses the intentions of those who are behind it, as well as their objectives and hostility toward peace and UN resolutions.

Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad will not allow anybody to discuss with it matters that are part of its sovereignty and its right to defend itself and to confront aggression and provocation. The Israeli and U.S. rulers should remember that the Middle East is not an American state, that the Mediterranean is not a U.S. lake, and that Israel is not an international gendarme to impose discipline and obedience on the region.

When Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that Israel knows how to reply to Syria's provocations, he should take into consideration that others also know how to reply to provocations in a suitable manner. Those who send their planes into other countries' airspace are the ones who provoke others and seek confrontation. The entire world knows all this, and everyone will be responsible for his own actions.

Iran's Khatami Holds Press Conference at Embassy

*JN181345 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] Damascus — Iranian Islamic Guidance Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami held a press conference at the Iranian Embassy in Damascus this morning that was attended by a number of journalists and news agency correspondents.

The minister talked about the results of his visit to the Syrian Arab Republic, praising the positiveness of the talks he held with a number of officials in the country. Khatami praised Syria's great achievements, referring to Syria's progress in all fields. On bilateral future relations in confronting Zionism and imperialism, the minister affirmed that the common denominator between them is the struggle against Zionism and imperialism, pointing out that the anti-imperialist progressive forces are the main forces in the region now.

On his meetings with Syrian officials, Khatami indicated that they were good. During these meetings, he said, bilateral relations in the fields of news, culture, tourism, awqaf, education, and exchange of visits were discussed. The minister said: We are happy because we reached principled and required agreements. He said that these agreements complement the good political and economic relations between the two countries.

On relations with the Gulf states, Khatami said: Matters are continuously improving. On the Iraq-Iran war, Khatami affirmed that Saddam Husayn is the one who triggered the war against the Islamic revolution in Iran and the one who is seeking to destroy Iran and Iraq together through this war. He said: We are waging a defensive war against Saddam Husayn, who is the executor of the will of the United States and Israel in the region. At the end of the conference, Khatami conveyed thanks and greetings to President Hafiz al-Asad and all the brother Syrian officials whom he met during the visit.

Concludes Visit, Departs

*JN181914 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] Iranian Islamic Guidance Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami left Damascus today following a visit of several days to the country during which he conveyed a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from Iranian President 'Ali Khomeini. Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh, his assistant, directors of media establishments, the Iranian charge d'affaires in Damascus, and embassy staff saw the Iranian minister off at Damascus International Airport.

PRC's Wu Xueqian Makes Statement, Departs

JN181445 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1358 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Damascus, 18 Dec (SANA) — PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian left Damascus today following a visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad. In a predeparture statement, Wu affirmed that his visit was successful, fruitful, and recorded positive achievements that will promote bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation in various fields.

He expressed pride in meeting with President al-Asad. He said: I had the great honor of meeting with the president and hearing an important and comprehensive explanation regarding the current situation in the Middle East, as well as the clear Syrian stand toward political issues in the region.

Wu described his talks with Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and his meetings with officials as cordial, frank, and clear. He asserted his country's support for the just Arab struggle to liberate the occupied Arab territories and regain the Palestinian Arab people's usurped rights of self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil.

Concluding his statement, the PRC official highly valued Syria's role in Lebanon, saying: We support Syria's efforts to force the Israeli forces to withdraw from Lebanese territory, achieve Lebanese national accord, and restore peace and stability to Lebanon.

Al-Shar' Receives PNC Speaker Al-Fahum

*JN160625 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 16 Dec 85*

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum yesterday evening. 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee member, and Talal Naji, PFLP-General Command assistant secretary general, attended the meeting. Talks revolved around the situation in the Palestinian arena.

Al-Kasm Receives Message From Romanian Premier

*JN181643 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1615 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] Damascus — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received at 1130 today Romanian Ambassador Paraschiv Benescu, who conveyed to Dr al-Kasm a message from Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu.

Israel, Ivory Coast To Resume Diplomatic Relations

TA181525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Israel and the Ivory Coast are resuming their diplomatic relations. This was decided by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny in a secret meeting they held today in Geneva at the president's private residence.

In a news conference in Geneva, Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche announced that the decision would initially be submitted to the governments of both countries for its approval. Our correspondent Yisra'el Segal reports that the prime minister arrived in Geneva at noon and talked with President Houphouet-Boigny for over 2 hours. The president of the Ivory Coast promised to work on the resumption of relations between Israel and other African countries. At the end of their talk, the president hosted the prime minister and his entourage for lunch.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the president of the Ivory Coast asked to meet the prime minister about 2 weeks ago. In the last few months, the Foreign Ministry's director general and other officials conferred with the president of the Ivory Coast.

The Ivory Coast was the last African country that severed relations with Israel 12 years ago. However, through this entire period Israel maintained an office at the Belgian Embassy in Abidjan. Israel maintains similar offices in eight countries in Africa.

Peres Comments on Resumption

TA182015 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by Yisra'el Segal on 18 December at the private residence of the president of the Ivory Coast in Geneva — videotaped]

[Text][Segal] What was actually decided in your meeting today with the president of the Ivory Coast?

[Peres] It was decided to resume diplomatic relations between the Ivory Coast and Israel. Of course, each of the countries has to announce this in its capital city and receive the approval of its party, but the decision has been made.

[Segal] Why all the secrecy around your visit here?

[Peres] There was not much secrecy. Except for my departure and the time of my arrival here, we are not meeting clandestinely now.

[Segal] Politically speaking, how do you assess the resumption of relations with the Ivory Coast?

[Peres] I appreciate it very much. I really think the Ivory Coast is the most serious country in Africa. Houphouet-Boigny, the doyen of African leaders, has been heading his movement for some 40 years and leading his country for some 20 years, ever

since it got its independence. He is a very popular and respected president and he is a man who wisely combines patience, unity, and progress. He may be the most successful and popular African leader at present.

He also told me something else. He said that he would like to bring other African countries to establishing or resuming relations with Israel, and I believe that he will work on that. He believes that there are two trends in Africa: Christian tolerance and Muslim intolerance. He also regards this situation as a confrontation of tempers and religions. He is very worried about the radicalization in Africa that is leading to chaos. He believes that Africa should compose itself because he thinks that Africans are basically a very tolerant population.

[Segal] Did you invite him to visit in Israel?

[Peres] Yes, I invited him and he said that he would come after the drought, if there is a drought. In any event, he will choose a season convenient not just for Israel but also for the Ivory Coast. He very much wants to visit Israel.

Remarks on Other Issues

TA191034 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
19 Dec 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by Yosi Lempkovitz]

[Excerpts] Geneva — Israel and the Ivory Coast are to restore their diplomatic relations. The decision was announced here yesterday after a secret meeting between Prime Minister Peres and Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Peres's presence in Geneva was kept secret almost until the last moment, with the international press corps being informed only while the Peres-Houphouet-Boigny meeting was in progress that a "senior Israeli personality" would be holding a press conference at the Hotel President in the afternoon. About 30 newsmen attended the press conference.

Other points made by the prime minister at the press conference:

— Israel must be cautious and not indulge in rhetoric over the Syrian missile redeployment. Peres said that the best way for the two countries to solve the problem is to return to the situation that existed before the current tension.

— Responding to a question about the role of the PLO, Peres said that the organization's only objective is to maintain its unity and take no political decisions.

— On Tabah, Peres said that Israel and Egypt are very close to an agreement. He stressed, however, that there are two divergent views within the Israeli government, "but perhaps we can find a formula that mixes the two points of view, arbitration and conciliation...."

— As to Soviet policy, Peres said he sees no change in Soviet attitude towards Israel. The only change so far is one of image, in articulation but not in policy. Soviet Jewry is an example —

there had been no change since the Gorbachev-Reagan summit in Geneva.

Peres was flanked at the meeting with Houphouet-Boigny by only two aides: Foreign Ministry Director General Kimche and the premier's media adviser, Uri Savir. At the press conference later they were joined by Ambassador to the UN at Geneva Efrayim Dubek.

A fourth aide, who arrived in Geneva earlier to take care of last-minute arrangements, was the premier's military secretary, Aluf-Mishne [Col] 'Azriel Nevo. He kept out of the limelight and avoided newsmen in the best Geneva tradition.

Further Peres Comments

TA190612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] On his return last night from his meeting in Geneva with the president of the Ivory Coast, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres revealed that Israel will establish relations with another four African countries in the near future. Shim'on Peres conferred with the president of the Ivory Coast, and it was decided to resume bilateral diplomatic relations. Our correspondent Dan Eshel was at Ben-Gurion Airport when the prime minister returned home:

[Begin recording] [Eshel] Houphouet-Boigny did not ask for anything in exchange for resumption of relations with Israel, the prime minister said.

[Peres] On the contrary. He told me that he would work to bring about the resumption or establishment of relations with other African countries. He did not raise any requests.

[Eshel] The prime minister declined to name the countries referred to. All he would say was this:

[Peres] I have been approached by another president who wants to gradually establish relations with Israel. This of course will be made public when the time comes.

[Eshel] The resumption of relations with the Ivory Coast will soon be evidenced by an exchange of ambassadors between the two countries, the prime minister said.

[Peres] I think this will take place within a few weeks because the president has to swear in the new Ivory Coast Government following the elections held there recently. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 0500 GMT on 19 December, in a similar report on Peres' return and the possibility of other African countries resuming relations with Israel, adds: "Among the countries mentioned by observers are Togo, Cameroon, Senegal, and Ghana."]

Shamir on Renewal of Relations

TA181820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Shalom Oren on 18 December; place not given — recorded]

[Text][Oren] Mr Vice Prime Minister, we heard the news today that Israel is going to resume relations with the Ivory Coast. What is the importance of this event?

[Shamir] This is an important achievement in the process of resuming relations between Israel and all those countries on the African Continent which maintained excellent relations with us before the 6-Day War and the Yom Kippur War, but severed these relations later. During all these years, the Foreign Ministry has been making constant efforts in many African countries to resume relations. This was a lengthy process taking years and producing only partial results. For example, in the Ivory Coast we had a diplomatic representative who was not accredited, a so-called interests officer [last two words in English]. During this time we received many promises that relations would be raised to the full diplomatic level, but always something came up which put this off.

The same happened, and is still happening, in other countries. I hope that now that relations between Israel and the Ivory Coast have been resumed in full, other countries in the area will follow suit and resume relations with us, and Israel's array of diplomatic relations will expand.

[Oren] Is this just a hope or are there also grounds for this belief?

[Shamir] Of course we have grounds on which to base this belief. We have always known that if the president of the Ivory Coast, who is one of the most important statesmen in Africa, decided on such a move this would also persuade other African leaders to follow suit.

[Oren] Would it not have been natural for you to reap the fruit of your lengthy efforts and for you to meet the president of the Ivory Coast?

[Shamir] What counts is that the State of Israel should reap the fruit, and it does not matter who made the last move. It is clear to me that to that end the president of the Ivory Coast wanted to confer with the prime minister.

Mubarak Satisfied With 'Great Progress' at Talks

TA191057 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Dec 85 p 2

[Report by Refa'el Mann]

[Text] At the height of the talk between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Ivory Coast President Houphouet-Boigny near Lake Geneva, Peres received an oral message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. The message was conveyed over the telephone by Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, who is currently in Geneva.

The Prime Minister's Office said last night that in the message Mubarak expressed his satisfaction over "the great progress" that, according to him, was made in the latest bilateral talks. Mubarak added that he is convinced all the disputed problems can be solved. Ghali added that Mubarak had asked him to convey his personal wishes to the Israeli prime minister.

'Sources' on Amal Threat To Attack North Early '86

TA191220 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
19 Dec 85 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The supporters of Nabih Birri and Amal leaders in Lebanon have recently been threatening to launch terrorist attacks against northern Israeli settlements in the beginning of 1986. Sources in Jerusalem believe the Shi'ites made this decision because of their failure to bring about the collapse of the security zone in southern Lebanon in the last few months. They are also apprehensive about the reaction of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] that has been taking revenge against the Shi'ite inhabitants of the villages north of the security zone. Jerusalem sources believe the terrorist activities of the Shi'ite organizations might become more violent in view of these groups' mounting rivalry with pro-Syrian and Palestinian elements to lead the struggle in southern Lebanon.

U.S. Involvement in Planned Palestinian Visit Seen

TA181207 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
18 Dec 85 p 6

[Article by Pinhas 'Inbari: "There Is Something New in the Territories"]

[Text] When U.S. diplomat Richard Murphy met with a group of figures from the territories about 10 days ago, it seemed that the purpose of the talk was just to keep in touch with the Palestinian leadership since the U.S. diplomat had no news to impart. But as time passed it became clearer that this talk had a significance far beyond that of a simple courtesy conversation.

The initial suspicion that this meeting was different from previous occasions when U.S. diplomats met with figures from the territories arose when those present reported to journalists that they had decided not to report on the contents of the talks. On previous occasions they had not done this for the simple reason that there were no secrets. This time it turns out that the conversation with Murphy revolved around more than just a report on the international situation, and the talk had practical consequences — principally, a decision to form a delegation to go to Amman to meet with Yasir 'Arafat in order to persuade him to make his positions more flexible so as to help advance the political process.

It is difficult to believe that if the delegation had departed it would have succeeded in changing the political line 'Arafat has been following in the wake of the protracted deliberations in the PLO. Nevertheless, the development itself is important.

It should be noted that those mentioned as delegation members are more or less the same figures who met with Murphy. Because these people decided not to disclose what was said at the meeting, it is difficult to tell whether it was Murphy who raised the idea. However, there is no doubt that it was under the inspiration of this talk, or following it, that the group that met with Murphy decided to go on its mission.

The U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem, which has stuck with the same system for a long time, takes care to invite people known as supporters of Jordan and others known as supporters of the PLO, on a 50-50 basis, to talks with diplomats from the United States. The delegation to meet 'Arafat was also to have been composed on this basis. This means that the United States does not favorably regard Jordan's attempts at rapprochement with Syria if this would mean an end to the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. It is just on the eve of Husayn's departure for Damascus, with reports from Amman indicating that Syria is still demanding that Jordan expel 'Arafat, that the formation of the Jordanian-Palestinian group from the territories, with U.S. encouragement, is particularly important. Furthermore, the United States would welcome advancing the status of the territories from passive participation in indirect talks in the U.S. Jerusalem Consulate, to the emergence of real action — an attempt to affect PLO policy in accordance with the interests of the territories, and regarding the special composition of the delegation to Jordan, that is, its division of 50 percent Jordan, 50 percent PLO. These efforts could also produce a new model for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in the event the old model, which included real PLO members and real Jordanians, fulfills its role and a new ready-made model is needed for genuine peace talks in which the Palestinians from the territories have direct representation. After all, today joint delegations are more for the purposes of public relations throughout the world or to collect funds in the Arab world for the joint till which is becoming emptier and emptier for lack of donors.

Such a development in the status of the territories, leading to a resumption of the political process, is undoubtedly positive for Israel. After all, attempts now being made to renew the activity of the Arab municipalities in the territories is aimed at the same thing. However, Israel is again falling into its old trap of the "war against the PLO," and the political principles currently guiding it in the territories were formulated in other times when Israel was trying to achieve other goals in the territories. The policy of "war against the PLO" was formulated at a time when, for whatever reason, people in Israel thought that anything connected with the PLO was necessarily "extremist" and unfit to be touched. The problem is that several of the most prominent people identified with the PLO in the territories are the most outspoken for peace, and they can and want to influence the PLO to seriously enter the search for peace. After all, otherwise they would not have bothered with the matter of the delegation to 'Arafat at all.

The need for special projects, such as the organization of a delegation, originates in the fact that Israel has destroyed the permanent political structure and, first and foremost, the municipalities, which could have allowed the voices of the residents of the territories to be heard authoritatively without the com-

plicated maneuvers now required. The voice of the territories is absent, and this is not helping the peace efforts.

Soviets Allegedly To Allow 400,000 Jews To Leave

GF181858 Kuwait AL-RAY AL-'AMM in Arabic
17 Dec 85 pp 1, 21

[Fadiyah al-Sharqawi dispatch from Paris]

[Text] Well-informed sources in Paris have asserted that 400,000 [figure as published] Soviet Jews shortly will be transferred from the Soviet Union to Israel. This substantiates the report published by *AL-RAY AL-'AMM* which indicated that the two superpowers had reached agreement on allowing the Soviet Jews to emigrate in return for Israel's approval of the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East issue with the participation of the Soviet Union. It appears that preparations are underway for this operation in which four capitals will participate — Moscow, Paris, Sofia, and Tel Aviv. All this is masterminded by Washington. Although the Soviet Union accepted this deal in return for an international summit on the Middle East and for acquiring Western technology, it has not approved the transportation of Jews from Moscow to Tel Aviv directly.

The chairman of the International Jewish Conference, (Azgar Broongman), is scheduled to meet Soviet officials in the next few days to convince them of this. It is clear that the Soviets will allow a limited number of Jews to go to France or Austria before leaving for Israel.

After the ostensible transportation of Falasha Jews from Ethiopia, the Soviets prefer that this operation be made in total secrecy through the Polish capital Warsaw. This will allow them to save face with the Arabs by saying that they granted exit visas to Jews to go to Poland. They would then say that these Jews went from Poland to Israel. (Broongman) is expected to visit Poland where he will meet with Jaruzelski to coordinate emigration operations. It seems that the Arabs are concerned about this massive emigration by Soviet Jews. Most concerned of these Arabs is King Husayn of Jordan. The Israelis want this emigration to adjust the population balance in the occupied territories where 36 percent of the Arab population lives. With the arrival of the 400,000 Soviet Jews in Israel, the number of Jews in the

West Bank will be increased to 100,000. This would make the annexation of the West Bank a status quo and the Arabs in it would become a minority.

ASL Opens Passage Between N. Lebanon, Security Zone

TA190716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] The army of southern Lebanon [ASL] has opened another passage between northern Lebanon and the security strip, near the village of Hula. This is the fifth crossing that the ASL operates. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that General Lahd recently raised the taxes he collects from merchants at the crossings because of the reduced budget for civilian aid he receives from Israel.

Arab Leadership Takes Reins in Nabulus 19 Dec

TA190843 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] The Nabulus Chamber of Commerce today receives municipal authority, following 3 years of the town being headed by an IDF officer. Zafir al-Masri, head of the Chamber of Commerce, is appointed mayor. Al-Masri held the post of deputy mayor under former Mayor Bassam al-Shak'ah, who was dismissed following his refusal to cooperate with the Civilian Administration. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that in the past few days an investigating committee finished examining the municipality's accounts in preparation for turning them over to Arab hands.

EEC's Cheysson Arrives for Talks 18 Dec

TA181825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Excerpt] European Common Market Commissioner Claude Cheysson arrived in Israel this afternoon. He will be holding talks with Israeli officials on the planned expansion of the Common Market on January 1st. Israel is currently in the midst of delicate negotiations on the status of its agricultural exports to the Common Market, in light of Spain and Portugal joining the EEC.

Mano River Union Crisis Heightened by Recall
AB162255 Paris AFP in French 1728 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Abidjan, 16 Dec (AFP) — The recent recall by the Liberian Government of the secretary general of the Mano River Union, Dr Augustus Caine, of Liberian nationality, constitutes the latest stage so far in the crisis the organization is undergoing, according to observers in West Africa. This recall for consultation, decided in November by President Samuel Doe [title as received], reflected the deterioration of relations between the three member-countries (Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea) following the coup attempt against the Liberian president on 12 November this year.

General Doe had accused the two neighboring countries of having participated in the unsuccessful putsch, which he described as an "invasion" attempt through the intermediary of some of their citizens who had crossed the Liberian border. [sentence as received] Apart from Dr Caine, the Liberian ambassador to Sierra Leone has also been recalled. Sierra Leone has continuously denied the claims of President Doe, while Guinea has refused to comment on them.

Diplomatic circles in Freetown have remarked that the constitutive act of the organization, which was formally signed in 1973, stipulates that "the secretary general is an international public servant who cannot be removed from office, transferred, or recalled without prior and adequate consultations held with the heads of state of member-countries." The recall of the secretary general of the organization, which was founded in order "to establish economic cooperation and the harmonization of industrial development" among the member-states, has added to the previous difficulties, which have still not been overcome. For instance, the summit of the heads of state of member-countries has already been postponed three consecutive times; thus no meeting at the highest level has been held since 1983. As a result, the program worked out in August by the six-member ministerial committee has still not been discussed or approved by the three heads of state. It envisaged a policy of austerity in institutional matters, to further shift the effort on to economic cooperation. According to diplomatic sources, if these proposals are not approved, the union will no longer have a precise mandate, and will not even have a budget, which could lead to a halt in its activity.

Finally, the Mano River Union is confronted with a financial crisis. Sierra Leone owes the organization \$2 million; Guinea owes \$2.5 million; and Liberia, which has not paid any contribution for the past 2 years, owes \$1.5 million. The result is

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of the secretariat personnel has not been paid for 3 months now, while some employees of the organization who are paid by Liberia have received nothing for the past 5 months. If the recommendations made by the ministerial committee had been approved by the ministerial council, they would have helped to save nearly \$250,000 through a reduction of personnel costs, according to diplomatic sources.

UDEAC Summit Preparations Under Way
AB171303 Dakar PANA in French 1143 GMT 17 Dec 85

[Text] Libreville, 17 Dec (AGP/PANA) — The 42d session of the Steering Committee of the Central African Customs and Economic Union (UDEAC) presided over by Gabonese Economy and Finance Minister Jean-Pierre Lemboumba-Lepandou, chairman of the Steering Committee, ended on Monday evening in Franceville (southeast of Gabon).

During the session, which began last Saturday, problems of food strategy in the UDEAC countries and the future creation of a community of cattle and meat as well as of fishery products were discussed. The Franceville meeting constitutes the decisive stage in the economic integration of the subregion, declared Mr Lemboumba, who added that solutions have been found to almost all the issues submitted to the ministers.

The 21st UDEAC summit conference will open on Wednesday in the presence of the presidents of the six member-countries of the Union (Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, the Central African Republic, and Chad).

Gabonese Appointed ACCT Secretary General
AB181715 Paris AFP in French 1559 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Dakar, 18 Dec (AFP) — Paul Okumba D'Okwatsegue (of Gabon), was on Wednesday afternoon appointed secretary general of the Cultural and Technical Cooperation Agency (ACCT), it is learned from sources close to the ACCT conference.

The agreement on the candidacy of the Gabonese, which was reached after more than three hours of heated discussions behind closed doors, followed the withdrawal of the candidate of France, Georges Fillioud, secretary of state for communications.

Mr Okumba, 51 years old and adviser to Gabonese President Omar Bongo, is succeeding another Gabonese, Francois Owono-Nguema, as the head of the organization, which has been holding its general conference in Dakar since Monday.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Ibrahimi, Tunisian Foreign Minister

LD181917 Algiers APS in English 1045 GMT
18 Dec 85

[Text] Algiers, 18 Dec 85 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid audience here Tuesday the Tunisian foreign affairs minister and special envoy of President Habib Bourguiba who handed him a message from the Tunisian president. President Chadli Bendjedid also audience the foreign affairs minister, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi who briefed him on the mission he made in Bamako as a special envoy of the head of state and where he handed a message from President Chadli Bendjedid to Malian President Moussa Traore.

Ben Bella on 'United Front', 'Saharan Problem'

LD181307 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1030 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] London, 18 Dec (MAP) — Former Algerian President Ahmed ben Bella affirmed at a press conference he held jointly in London with his comrade-in-arms Hocine Ait Ahmed following the proclamation of the creation of a unified front of the forces opposed to the current Algerian regime, that it is not in Algeria's interest to work for the dismemberment of Morocco's territorial integrity. He added that all the countries that rule Morocco come from the Sagui el Hamra and Rio de Oro. He also expounded on the declaration concerning the establishment of democracy in Algiers.

Replying to a question about the steps the unified front plans to adopt, and its relations with such opposition leaders in Algeria as Boudiaf, Ben Bella said that the call for the creation of the Unified Front was not confined to only two people, but to all the living forces in Algeria. It is a call that stems from all Algerians, he said, adding that Algeria is living through a tragedy that takes several forms, and that armed clashes between the living forces and the regular forces have led to many people being killed and wounded.

He affirmed that the Kabyle area is in a constant state of turmoil and that the Algerian citizens in the other regions are living in a state of disgust and disgruntlement because of the deteriorating conditions in Algeria. It is in view of this, he said, that we have decided to save the Algerian people from the serious repercussions of this state of affairs. He added that at present, Algeria is passing through a new form of colonialism, which led to this tense situation.

He expressed his confidence that the Algerian living forces will join the unified front, declaring that the recent contacts the front has conducted have heralded positive results. He added that the front will remain open to all currents that believe in the principle of plurality, democracy and the democratization of public life in Algeria, and the respect of human rights and public freedoms, including the freedom of expression.

Asked if the Unified Front is prepared to enter into negotiations with the FLN, Ben Bella described the party as the sole evil,

adding that the front has no objection to talks provided the Algerian regime expresses a desire to find a way out of the problems facing Algeria and accepts the principle of plurality and democracy.

Ait Ahmed pointed out that the main objective of the Unified Front is to mobilize and awaken the youth so that they may help in laying the foundation of democracy in Algeria, adding that the front will not seek to address the regional or international organizations because it believes that the problems facing the Algerians must be solved by the Algerians themselves.

He expressed his hope that France would have an opportunity to establish democracy among the Algerian community in France, which has played a prominent role in the Algerian liberation movement.

Replying to a question about the conflict in the Western Sahara, Ben Bella affirmed his opposition to the continuation of the war in the Sahara which has been raging for 10 years. He stressed the need for a final settlement of this conflict and for finding a way out of this political impasse, which has led to the worsening of the situation. He said Morocco must remain a united country because small entities cannot last; it is not in Algeria's interest to work for the disintegration of Morocco's territorial unity because all the successive states in Morocco came originally from Sagui el Hamra and Rio de Oro, including the Murabiti, Sa'di and Alawite (?states).

Ben Bella said that the "Saharan problem is not the problem of King Hassan II, but is a problem of a people, and ancient history which should be taken into consideration", pointing out that instead of thinking in terms of dismemberment of Morocco, people should think of abolishing passports and guaranteeing the free movement of people and property — the hopes of the Greater Arab Maghreb.

He added that the building of the Greater Arab Maghreb is an idea entrenched in the minds of the peoples of the area, but that the expansionist ambitions of some officials prevents its realization. By this, he said, I mean the current war that has been going on for over 10 years and should be ended.

Ben Bella and Ait Ahmed declared that their movement enjoys the overwhelming support of the living forces in Algeria and that they will continue their democratic struggle for the mobilization of the Algerians, who are being subjected to a distorted campaign of information and who are being subjected to a regime which is akin to the Soviet regime, but in a backward form, which forces their thinking to be confined to finding their daily bread.

They also affirmed that their movement has polarized the hundreds of strugglers who had rebelled against the regime and rejected the one-party principle; despite being deprived of work, they continue to live with dignity, maintaining their loyalty to their principles.

In conclusion, they reiterated their support for the Afghan Mujahidin, the Palestine resistance, and the liberation movements in Eritrea, which are all fighting for freedom.

Former Leader Accused of Fund Mismanagement

LD182106 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Within the framework of its activities during the current year, the auditing board has issued a decision connected with the running of the bank account that was opened on 26 October 1963 in the name of the premier's office and was being managed by the former president of the Republic at that time [Ben Bella].

On examining this case the board considered it the responsibility of the accused and none other for the irregular disposal of public funds, noting that the actual management of those funds stem from three elements that the decision of the board noted on 11 July 1985, namely: the disposal of funds by the former president who signed all payment documents [words indistinct], the lack of any legal document authorizing the disposal of those funds.

After acquitting the accused (?on its own initiative) of being responsible for the use of certain sums, the board blamed the accused for the rest of the account, which involved about 29 million dinars to cover the losses caused to the public treasury as a result of this fraudulent management.

Further Criticism of Ben Bella

LD181319 Algiers APS in English 1125 GMT
18 Dec 85

[Text] Algiers, 18 Dec 85 (APS) — Today the national daily *EL MOUDJAHID* issued a commentary which vigorously condemns the high level advertising campaign waged from abroad by what the daily qualified as sowers of confusion alluding therefore to two opposant to Algerian regime (Ben-Bella and Ait-Ahmed), who in an attempt to get out from oblivion work hard towards dealing a blow to Algeria and undermining its regime. However, the daily further underlined that this manoeuver is not at all surprising for the Algerian people has grown familiar with these nefarious reactions of these trouble makers who suddenly appear every time the revolution in its persevering advance reaches a decisive step for its future. It is precisely the case these days which precede the F.L.N. Party extraordinary congress. For the latter after having fulfilled the operation of enrichment of the national charter is about to give a new impetus to the revolution approach and to consolidate it for the future generations.

EL MOUDJAHID dismissed this arrogant dupery by these trouble makers who are really ill advised to speak of human rights and democracy, because for those who advocate all these ideals have soon forgotten that in the recent past they were the worst torturers and the most notorious totalitarians.

In conclusions *EL MOUDJAHID* pointed out that Algeria has managed thanks to the great success and the gains it has scored to edify itself without resorting to this kind of persons and it will still continue to progress by doing without them. Their boastings will never prevent them from falling into oblivion the daily concluded.

LIBYA**Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Hassan II, Bendjedid Messages**

LD181626 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1330 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] The brother commander of the revolution this morning recieved brother Abdelhakim Laraki, the resident envoy of the Arab-African Union in Libya, who delivered a message from King Hassan II.

The brother commander of the revolution also received brother Mohamed Ali Ammar [as heard], the Algerian ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who conveyed to him a message from President Chadli Bendjedid.

Commentary Criticizes U.S. Demand to Syria

LD181552 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT
18 Dec 85

["JANA Political Editor Comments on U.S. Stance Against Syria" — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Athani 4, Dec. 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The USA has informed Syria to withdraw its anti-aircraft missiles that were sited near its border with Lebanon.

The JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY political editor described this U.S. stance as transgression and sheer arrogance.

He added that when superpower interfered into the internal affairs of an independent state as to how to arrange its equipments inside its borders made us say that there was nothing left for USA except to force every Arab state where to establish its camps and its cities or where to construct or not to construct its new roads. [sentence as received]

JANA political editor blamed Arab rulers for this degradation in which the Arab nation was placed. He added that the policy of capitulation to USA pursued by Arab rulers made it think that all the Arabs are cowards and it could only make them dog behind it and carry its orders.

MAURITANIA**PRC Youth Delegation on Official Visit**

AB181910 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] The PRC youth delegation that is currently visiting Mauritania was received yesterday by Soumare Oumar, the minister of civil service and administrative training.

It must be recalled that this delegation was received the day after its arrival in Nouakchott by Major Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Deh, the permanent secretary of the CMSN, and later was the

guest at a dinner hosted by the regional committee of the Mass Education Organization of the Nouakchott district.

The delegation was later guest at a reception presided over by Captain Mohamed Lemine Ould Ndiayane, a CMSN member and commander of the 6th Military Region and chairman of the (Essame) and Nouakchott regional commission.

Yesterday afternoon, the PRC youth delegation went to Nouadhibou where it visited the principal centers of interest in the economic capital.

MOROCCO

Saudi Crown Prince Arrives on Private Visit

LD181721 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic

1600 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Excerpt] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, has arrived in Mohamed V International Airport, in Casablanca, for a private visit to Morocco.

He was welcomed at the airport by Mohamed Karim Lamrani, prime minister; Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; General (Moulay Hafidh el-Alawi), minister of royal palaces, protocol and decorations; Amed el-Fizazi, governor of the greater Casablanca; 'Ali Majid al-Qabbani, Saudi ambassador in Rabat; and several civilian and military officials.

His highness was saluted by a unit of the auxiliary forces.

SUDAN

Finance Minister Resigns Post 18 Dec

JN181443 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1423 GMT

18 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Dec (SUNA) — Minister of Finance and Economic Planning 'Awad 'Abd al-Majid tendered his resignation to the prime minister today. In a statement to SUNA, the minister attributed the reason for his resignation to the change in the Council of Ministers' confidence toward the economic trends and policies which he presented to solve the economic problems in the country. He noted that in the past the Council of Ministers had faith in and applied more than 90 percent of the proposed economic policies.

The minister said that the Council of Ministers' rejection of the economic policies, which he presented, will have serious results, primarily a possible halt in foreign support for the country.

The minister asserted that his decision is final and that he will not go back on it because it is impossible to cooperate with the Council of Ministers due to the lack of confidence. He said that it is necessary to relinquish the post to another person who should

enjoy the Council of Ministers' confidence and who can cooperate with it.

Further on Resignation, IMF Talks

JN191046 Khartoum SUNA in English

1020 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rabi Thani 6 Dec. 19, (SUNA) — The Finance and Economic Planning Minister 'Awad 'Abd al-Majid has resigned for what he described as absence of cooperation between him and the Council of Ministers.

He said the cabinet no longer trusted his economic policies "though it had earlier accepted more than 90 percent of the economic policies I proposed."

He said the cabinet rejection of his proposed policies would entail grave consequences and could stop most of the foreign financial support to Sudan.

He said his resignation was final and said he was stepping down to allow the Council of Ministers search for another person who could win the trust and cooperation of the government.

Meanwhile, the cabinet Tuesday night held a protracted debate on recommendations by a ministerial committee it had assigned to review a draft agreement the minister had reached with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The cabinet has decided in the light of the committee report, to renegotiate the agreement with the IMF in a bid to clarify and redraft some terms and to take due measures that could help carry out the objectives of the said agreement.

The cabinet has asked the committee to continue discussions on the available options and to take necessary steps for examining means of implementing the economic measures reached by the committee.

On the other hand the IMF representative to here yesterday received the modified formula of the agreement reached between Sudan and IMF.

The IMF representative, who will submit the modified formula to his headquarters in Washington, said that the modification included issues of great importance.

The daily *AL-AYYAM* today quoted Minister of Trade, Cooperation and Supply Sayyid Ahmad al-Sayyid as saying the economic ministerial committee, chaired by him, will be in continuous contact with the (IMF) to see its view on the modified agreement which he described as indispensable.

The IMF had lately consented on the principle of modifying the agreement.

New Party Members Reportedly To Stand Trial

*JN191020 Khartoum SUNA in English 0954 GMT
19 Dec 85*

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 19, (SUNA) — Members of the suspected newly surfaced National Socialist Alliance organization will, in the coming days, stand trial under the state security law for attempting to undermine democracy the daily *AL-SAHAFAH* today quoted Attorney General 'Umar 'Abd al-'Ati as saying that any one who likes to join the suspected banned organization will be tried.

The organization is a return to the supremacy of the defunct Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) which represents the sole political organization of the defunct regime, he said.

'Abd al-'Ati explained that he will cover with the Sudanese bar association the corruption and democracy protection law, which includes the guarantee of the democratic life, the punishment of any one calls for an anti-April popular upheaval system, or calls for the defunct May regime return with severe punishment.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Sends Message to Soviet Leaders

PM191021 Tunis L'ACTION in French 12 Dec 85 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Message From Head of State to Soviet Leaders"]

[Text] We have learned from an official source that President Bourguiba has asked Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Mahmoud Mestiri to convey a verbal message to the Soviet leaders. This message expresses Tunisia's thanks for the Soviet support after the Israeli aggression.

According to the same source the message also related to other questions of common interest be it bilateral relations or the latest development in the most important aspects of the international situation.

It should be noted that this visit is of particular importance in view of the Soviet Union's great responsibility in safeguarding peace in the world and its influence on the course of events.

The visit will probably provide a new opportunity to strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Bourguiba Receives Essebsi After Algiers Visit

*LD182054 Algiers APS in English 1341 GMT
18 Dec 85*

[Text] Tunis, 18 Dec 85 (APS) — The Tunisian president, Habib Bourguiba received Thursday the minister of foreign affairs, Beji Caid Essebsi, who gave him an account on his visit Tuesday to Algiers during which he handed a message of the Tunisian head of state, to President Chadli Bendjedid. President Bourguiba expressed his satisfaction about the results of the talks and recommended to carry on the contacts, the dialogue and the reinforcement of the fruitful cooperation between Tunisia and Algeria, an official Tunisian source said at the end of the audience.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Front Forms 'New Government'

*LD181951 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] A new government was formed in the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. Its composition was announced by the Saharan President, secretary general of the Polisario Front, Mohamed Abdelaziz, at the meeting of the Saharan National Council. It is the Revolution Command Council that has formed the new government: Mouloud Bel Abdi reports:

Mohamed Lamine assumes the portfolio of the Prime Ministry; Brahim Ghali occupies the post of defense; at the head of the Interior Ministry is Taleb Omar; the portfolio of information is assumed by Ibrahim Hakim; Mansour Omar, he is at the head of the diplomacy (mn: foreign minister); Mohamed Salim Ould Sadek has been appointed secretary general of the presidency.

During its meeting, the Saharan National Council also elected its new chairman; Mohamed Ould M'Barck Ould Rahal, in lieu of Hamoudi Ahmed Baba, who was called for other functions. This meeting, chaired by Abdelaziz, was devoted to analyzing the current situation experienced by the country, and to defining the practical and adequate means to use in implementing the decisions of the Sixth Congress of the Polisario Front.

CHAD

Joint Commission Meeting With Cameroon Opens

AB162132 Ndjamea Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Excerpts] The Chad-Cameroon Joint Commission meeting opened in Ndjamea this afternoon. It is an institution aimed at strengthening and giving impetus to bilateral relations between the two countries. In the opinion of Korom Ahmed, the secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation and leader of the Chadian delegation, this meeting is aimed at taking stock, analyzing, and exchanging ideas about problems facing our two countries. You may now listen to the speech Korom Ahmed gave before the Chad-Cameroon Joint Commission meeting this afternoon.

[Begin Ahmed recording] We would like to express once more our gratitude to the Cameroonian authorities whose inestimable efforts have made it possible to revive our joint commission. This desire to revive the commission was expressed by our two heads of state during the visit by His Excellency El Hadj Hissein Habre, president of the Republic of Chad, to Yaounde on 14 August 1984. Mr Minister, in a world hit by instability caused by rivalry, the instinct of domination of all kinds of selfish pursuits, and in the face of a persistent world economic crisis, it is indeed praiseworthy that our two countries are firmly determined to combine their efforts to create a dynamic cooperation, justified by history and geography, and by the (?necessity) and the complementarity of their potential.

Mr Minister, the present meeting, which is aimed at reviving and dynamizing cooperation between our two countries, will examine the various items on the agenda, which include administrative and security problems, prison services, water supply, and economic, commercial, and cultural cooperation. Mr Minister, while wishing total success to this meeting, I declare open the (?25th) session of the Chad-Cameroon Joint Commission. Long live international cooperation! Long live the Republic of Cameroon! Long live Chad! I thank you. [End recording]

ETHIOPIA

Forced Resettlement Program Causes Deaths

AU181422 Paris AFP in English 1405 GMT
18 Dec 85

[Text] Geneva, Dec 18 (AFP) — The French humanitarian organization Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) predicted here today that the death toll from forced population removals in Ethiopia would climb to 400,000.

MSF Director-General Dr. Claude Malhuret said the Ethiopian Government's plan to resettle 1,750,000 people would cost another 300,000 lives, on top of the 100,000 deaths that MSF claims the plan has already caused.

The MSF was expelled from Ethiopia early this month after its allegations that the government plan to forcibly shift people from

the parched north of the country to the more fertile south was causing deaths on a massive scale.

Addressing a press conference here today, MSF President Dr. Rony Braumann called on Ethiopia to respect Article 13 of the Declaration of Human Rights, which forbids forced population removals.

He said that the transit camps into which people were forced before their removal south were like "concentration camps", and were the main cause of deaths in the country.

Dr. Malhuret, author of a report on "mass deportations in Ethiopia", said: "We are witnessing the biggest deportation operation since the Khmer Rouge Genocide (in Cambodia during the late 1970's)."

But the MSF allegations were denied by Ethiopia's deputy permanent secretary at the United Nations here, Kongit Sinegiorgis, who was present at the press conference.

Mrs. Sinegiorgis said the MSF figures were "completely false", and invited all the journalists at the press conference to visit Ethiopia and see for themselves.

She added that the MSF, one of the 48 non-governmental humanitarian groups operating in Ethiopia, had been expelled for "interference in the internal political affairs" of Ethiopia.

Dr. Braumann said that, even when MSF was still operating in Ethiopia, the French doctors did not have the right to venture outside a strictly limited perimeter surrounding their aid camps.

KENYA

Ugandan Peace Agreement Published

EA181318 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English
18 Dec 85 pp 6,7

["Peace at Last, the Uganda Peace Pact" — THE STANDARD headline]

[Text] This agreement is made pursuant to the peace talks held in Nairobi, Kenya, during the period 26th August, 1985 to 17th December, 1985 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, president and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kenya, between the military government of Uganda which assumed power in Uganda following the ouster [as published] of the former government of that country on the 27th July 1985 (hereinafter referred to as the military government) and the National Resistance Movement.

We, the military government and the National Resistance Movement, the parties to this agreement:

Appreciating the offer by His Excellency President Daniel Toroitich arap Moi and the brotherly people of the Republic of Kenya to convene, host and chair our talks and search for peace in our beloved Uganda:

Recalling the desire of the people of the sovereign state of Uganda at independence on the ninth of October 1962 to exercise fully the right to self-determination as one nation within the United Nations Organisation:

Mindful of the determination proclaimed by the people of the world in the Charter of the United Nations to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of all men and women of all nations, and to promote social progress and freedom, which determination was restated and subscribed to by the sovereign State of Uganda in the Charter of the Organisation of African Unity but more particularly in the bill of rights contained in the independence constitution of Uganda and the successive Constitution of Uganda:

Aware of the endless conflicts resulting from the denial of, or impediments in the way of, freedom and peace for the citizens and people in Uganda by successive governments, which conflicts have destroyed peace and stability, eroded national institutions and democratic principles and threatened the sovereignty and integral status of our country so dearly cherished by us and all Ugandans everywhere:

Conscious of the need (for) the creation of conditions of stability and well-being and peace based on respect of individual persons and of the need for respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons in Uganda without distinction as to race, sex, place of origin, political opinions, colour, creed or language:

Recognizing the passionate yearning for peace and freedom for all citizens of Uganda everywhere and other peoples living in Uganda, a yearning shared by all nations and peoples of goodwill towards Uganda, and the decisive positive role that such citizens, nations and peoples can play in the political, social and economic development of Uganda in times of peace:

Convinced that any continuation of armed conflict, dictatorial rule, denial of human rights and fundamental freedoms prevent development in Uganda as well as positive international cooperation with friendly and brotherly nations and other bodies and militates against the ideal peace:

Convinced that Uganda has an inalienable right to peace and complete political and economic freedom and in that regard must exercise the right of self-determination as a sovereign state and integral national territory whose boundaries were more particularly delineated and described in schedule one to the constitution of the Republic of Uganda of 1967:

Welcoming the commitment to and participation in the search for peace in Uganda by our brotherly neighbours the peoples of the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania and recognizing that instability in any one of our nations is a threat to the peace and stability of the whole East African region:

Believing that the process of restoration of peace, stability and democratic rule and government is now irresistible and irreversible as exemplified by the spirit of mutual cooperation, trust and frankness between the parties at the peace talks: and in so

believing desiring a formula to terminate the problems that have for so long bedevilled and manacled Uganda such as dictatorial rule and all practices of denial of human rights and fundamental freedoms, discrimination and massacre associated with such rule:

Now do solemnly proclaim for and in the name of Uganda the urgent necessity:

(1) Of bringing to a most speedy end dictatorship in all its forms and manifestations, armed conflict and denial of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

(2) Of restoring peace, security, law and order throughout the country through reconstruction of the country's economy, re-establishment of an effective administration both in central and local government, initiation and implementation of military reforms designed to ensure balanced, disciplined and national armed forces and security services: and

(3) Of laying the groundwork for the preparation and drafting of a popular constitution which will be the supreme law of Uganda, which constitution shall be promulgated by a popularly elected parliament/national assembly in due course, and ensuring the speedy return to democratic government through free and fair general elections within the framework of such a constitution.

And to this end declare and agree that: ceasefire article one: ceasefire terms:

After the signing of this agreement there shall be a ceasefire on the following terms:

(a) With effect from 0920 [0620 GMT] hours on the 17th day of December 1985, there will be complete and immediate cessation of hostilities. The commanders of the various combatant forces shall issue instructions to the forces under their command to ensure that within 48 hours of the signing of this agreement all fighting everywhere in Uganda shall cease.

(b) There shall be immediate cessation of recruitment into or formation of any combatant force other than the national force and the national army to be formed by the Military Council pursuant to articles seven and eight of this agreement.

(c) All roads in the country shall be opened and made safe for civilian and commercial traffic to operate normally.

(d) All hostile propaganda shall cease immediately.

(e) With effect from the date of signing of this agreement, all parties shall forthwith stop the acquisition and procurement of arms, ammunition and any other military hardware.

(f) No soldier or any other personnel under the command or control of any of the combatant forces shall engage in any criminal acts or other acts that violate human rights.

(g) All members of the security forces or any of the other combatant forces who have violated human rights since the July 27, 1985 shall be immediately punished and disciplining of members of such forces shall become a routine practice and part

of the operational code of conduct. Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted to mean that any person who may have committed similar acts prior to July 27, 1985 is exonerated.

(h) All political detainees who are known to be members of the National Resistance Movement shall be immediately released.

(i) Arrangements shall be made to provide non-military supplies to the combatant forces behind cease-fire lines and neutral agents may be involved in this exercise: and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the provisions of Article Three of the Geneva convention on the amelioration of the condition of wounded and sick in the armed forces in the field dated August 12, 1949 set out in annexures to this agreement shall apply.

(j) All combatant forces shall not under any circumstances whatsoever mobilise or deploy their troops without first obtaining authority of the Military Council and informing the monitoring-observer force.

(k) The parties to this agreement shall establish, on behalf of the Military Council, a committee to be known as the ceasefire committee consisting of representatives of the forces represented on the council and the monitoring/observer force for purpose of implementing the terms of the ceasefire.

The military council

Article 2 - The Military Council:

There shall be a military council which shall be the supreme organ of government in Uganda and which shall, upon the signing of this agreement, be composed of representatives of the combatant forces and the head of state as follows:-

- (a) Head of state/chairman, Military Council - one
 - (b) Uganda National Liberation Army (UNLA) - seven
 - (c) National Resistance Army (NRA) - seven
 - (d) Uganda Freedom Movement (UFM) - one
 - (e) Federal Democratic Movement (Fedemu) - two
 - (f) Former Uganda National Army (FUNA) - one
 - (g) Uganda National rescue front (Unrf) - one
- total - 20 (twenty).

The political parties that took part in the 1980 general elections may be represented on the Military Council but the mode of their representation shall be decided upon by the Military Council after due consultation with the political parties concerned and in accordance with Article five (one) (one) [as published].

Article 3 - Chairman and vice-chairman of the Military Council.

(1) There shall be a chairman of the Military council who shall also be the head of state of Uganda.

(2) The chairman shall preside at all meetings and sessions of the Military Council.

(3) There shall also be a vice-chairman of the Military Council who shall in all respects rank second only to the chairman/head of state and who shall, subject to paragraph six of this article, in the absence of the chairman/head of state, exercise the powers and perform the duties and functions of the chairman/head of state.

(4) The head of state at the date of signing of this agreement shall continue to be the head of state and chairman of the Military Council.

(5) The chairman of the High Command of the National Resistance Army at the date of signing of this agreement shall be the vice-chairman of the Military Council.

(6) If the office of the chairman/head of state or vice-chairman shall become vacant by resignation, death or incapacity resulting from infirmity of mind or body, the Military Council shall, by secret ballot and two-thirds majority, elect the chairman/head of state or vice-chairman, as the case may be, from among the representatives of the combatant forces on the Military Council.

(7) At no time during the rule of the Military Council in Uganda pursuant to this agreement shall the chairman and the vice-chairman of the Military Council be members of the same political party or combatant force. The military Council shall formulate the procedures for securing this agreed position.

Article 4 - Powers of the Military Council.

(1) The Military Council shall be the supreme authority in whom the executive and legislative powers shall vest [as published].

(2) All powers of the head of state shall be exercised by him in council.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) above the head of state may exercise the legislative and executive powers of the council in exceptional circumstances, which exceptional circumstances will be determined by the Military Council by a two-thirds majority.

(4) After the signing of this agreement and the appointment of the representatives of combatant forces to the Military Council, the Military Council shall review decrees promulgated and political appointments and promotions made by the military government since July 27, 1985.

Article 5 - Procedures of the Military Council.

(1) The Military Council shall formulate its own rules of procedure, the normal method of reaching decisions shall be by consensus except in regard to the following matters where a two-thirds majority shall be required to reach decision by secret ballot:

(A) Matters affecting the provisions of this agreement.

(B) National Defence policy and building of a new army and other security services.

(C) Programme of the interim period.

(D) Political appointments, promotions, including appointments in the security services.

(E) Review of decrees.

(F) Rehabilitation of war ravaged areas and settlement of displaced persons and fighters and soldiers who will not be absorbed into the new army.

(G) Issues of violation of human rights.

(H) Matters concerned with the promulgation of the new constitution and the holding of elections.

(I) Admission and dismissal of members of the Military Council.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of the foregoing paragraph the Military Council may, in its own discretion, and from time to time, determine such other matters of national importance upon which decisions shall be reached by a two-thirds majority.

(3) The two-thirds majority referred to herein shall mean that decisions by the Military Council requiring a two-thirds majority vote shall not be reached unless at least fourteen members of the twenty members of the council vote in favour of these decisions.

Code of Conduct: Article 6 — Need for Formulation of National Code of Conduct

(1) There is need for a change in the political direction of Uganda and in this regard the nation shall require a code of conduct for leaders and public officers.

(2) The Military Council shall, as a matter of urgency, set up a committee or commission to formulate a national code of conduct which shall, among other things, prescribe the qualifications for members of the Military Council, the cabinet and other public officers.

(3) Until such time as the national code of conduct is worked out, sections 41 and 42 of the 1967 Constitution of Uganda with the necessary modifications shall provide the minimum qualifications for membership of the Military Council, the Cabinet and appointments to other public offices.

The New National Army and National Defence policy: Article 7 — Recruitment of a New National Force and Its Functions

(1) Soon after the cessation of hostilities under Article 1 of this agreement and subject to paragraph (2) of this article and the sequence of events set out in Annexure A. There shall be established a new national force, composed of soldiers from all the combatant forces nominated by the respective combatant forces in the following numbers:

UNLA 3,700 soldiers, NRA 3,580 soldiers, Fedemu, UFM,

UNRF, FUNA — 1,200 soldiers. Total 8,480 soldiers.

(2) The Military Council shall establish a selection committee consisting of the representatives of all the combatant forces represented on the Military Council together with representatives of the monitoring/observer force for the purposes of selecting and vetting the soldiers nominated by the respective combatant forces to form the new force. The terms of reference of the selection committee and the criteria to be applied in the selection and vetting shall be determined by the Military Council.

Article 8 — The New National Army

(2) [number as published] The new national army shall be broad-based and representative of the country as a whole and shall be recruited in the first instance from the combatant forces existing at the date of signing of this agreement and in accordance with the national defence policy formulated under Article 9, provided that the second batch of recruitment shall be composed in the same proportions as those used for the first batch.

Article 9 — The National Defence Policy

(1) After the signing of and coming into force of this agreement the Military council shall, as soon as practicable, embark upon the formulation of a national policy to determine:- (A) The functions, size, nature, name and compositions of the national army to enable the new national force established under Article 7 and the monitoring/observer force to carry out recruitment of the new national army and the demobilisation of the combatant forces: and (b) The monitoring/observer force.

Article 10 — The Monitoring/Observer Force

(1) After the signing of this agreement the Uganda Government shall invite into Uganda a force from four commonwealth countries namely, Kenya, Tanzania, Great Britain and Canada. The force shall be known as the Monitoring/Observer Force and shall carry out the following duties:

(a) To observe and monitor the implementation of the cease-fire.

(b) To observe the security arrangements throughout the whole country.

(c) To assist in the disarmament/security arrangements exercise as may be requested by the Military Council within their terms of reference.

(d) To monitor the movements of troops to agreed assembly points.

(e) To assist in the collection and securing of arms from soldiers who have been demobilised.

(f) To monitor compliance with agreed arrangements and investigation of alleged breaches of the ceasefire.

(g) To assist in the recruitment and training of the new national army.

(H) To carry out any other duties assigned to them by the military council in consultation with their respective governments.

(2) Prior to the Monitoring/Observer Force moving into Uganda and after the cease-fire has been effected there shall be sent into the country a reconnaissance team, which may be from one or more of the countries invited to contribute to the Monitoring/Observer Force, to identify the positions of all the combatant forces and thereafter to determine the size of the Monitoring Observer Force required. The terms of reference of the reconnaissance team shall be as specified in Annexure B and manpower and equipment in Annexure C.

(3) During the period of operation of the reconnaissance team all the combatant forces shall remain at their positions as at the date of cease-fire.

(4) The provisions of Annexures A and B as they appertain to the operations, functions and duties of the Monitoring/Observer Force shall be in addition to and not in substitution of or derogation from the provisions of this article.

Article 11 - Responsibilities in the Ministry of Defence and the top ranks of the Armed Forces.

When reviewing the political appointments and other promotions made since the 27th July 1985, the Military Council shall:

Ensure a balance between the combatant forces represented on the Military Council existing immediately prior to the signing of this agreement and the National Resistance Movement in the distribution of responsibilities in the Ministry of Defence and in the Armed Forces.

Collection and storage of arms:

Article 12 - Collection and Storage of Arms:

(1) Upon the ceasefire coming into effect all arms of the combatant forces shall be collected and stored by the respective forces within known armouries belonging to those forces. The said collection and storage shall be monitored by the Monitoring/Observer Force which shall enumerate and verify the said arms.

(2) No arms shall be drawn from any armoury referred to in paragraph (1) of this article without the express authority of the local commander and concurrence of a representative of the Monitoring/Observer Force in the area. It shall be the duty of the representative of the Monitoring/Observer Force to report drawing of arms without concurrence to the next higher command headquarters where all the parties to this agreement shall be represented.

Demilitarisation of Kampala. Article 13 - Demilitarisation of Kampala.

(1) The City of Kampala shall be demilitarised and neutralised by removing out of Kampala all troops to be determined by the reconnaissance team. The security of Kampala shall be maintained by the police force which shall have been screened and whose arms shall have been verified by the Monitoring/Observer

Force. The Monitoring/Observer Force shall be adequately represented to ensure the neutrality of Kampala.

(2) The demilitarisation arrangements for Kampala shall remain in force until the complete demobilisation of the combatant forces has been achieved through recruitment in the new force established under Article 7 or resettlement of the men and women not so recruited.

Persons who served in Idi Amin's regime: Article 14 - provisions for Persons Who Served in Idi Amin's Regime.

(1) All persons who served in responsible positions in Idi Amin's regime including those who served in the army, the State Research Bureau or other security services and who are known to have committed atrocities or other heinous crimes shall be punished according to law. The prosecution of such persons shall not be time barred.

(2) All persons who served in the notorious State Research Bureau and Public Safety Unit shall not be eligible to join the new national army or any other security services.

(3) All ex-soldiers who served in the army in the period 1971-1979 and who are not covered under (1) above shall have to be carefully screened and vetted to be eligible to be admitted to the new national army or any other security services. In vetting such persons the committee shall give preference to those who have special skills to fill places which cannot otherwise be filled. The said persons must have clean records.

Convening of National Conference and General Elections: Article 15 - National Conference.

As soon as practicable after the signing of this agreement, the Military Council shall convene a national conference to discuss key national issues, to wit, tenure of the interim government, the future national constitutional framework, elections, and the national army. Representatives of the said national conference shall be drawn from all districts as well as all national institutions, political parties, religious groups and the Military Council.

Article 16 - Holding General Elections

Free and fair general elections shall be held in Uganda as soon as practicable to return the country to parliamentary democracy.

Implementation of the Agreement: Article 17 - Implementation

(1) For the purposes of ensuring the implementation of this agreement the Military Council constituted pursuant to Article 2 of this agreement shall at its first meetings expeditiously discuss and resolve matters relating to the following issues:

(a) Review of all the decrees promulgated by the military government since July 27, 1985:

(b) Formulation of the broad guidelines for the government programme of action:

(c) Establishment and formulation of the terms of reference of a commission of inquiry into the violation of human rights in Uganda since independence:

(d) Formulation of broad guidelines for the restructuring of the new national army and the harmonisation of ranks within the combatant forces as a basis for the formation by the military Council of a new national defence policy under Article 9 of this agreement which guidelines shall include strategies for the rehabilitation and resettlement of soldiers of the combatant forces who will not be recruited into the national army:

(e) Review of cabinet portfolios and other political appointments made by the military government since July 27, 1985:

(f) Such other urgent matters as may be determined by the Military Council.

(2) The Military Council when deciding the above issues shall not be governed by the two thirds majority rule set out in Article 5 of this agreement, but shall reach its decisions by consensus.

Article 18 - Preparation for the first meeting of the Military Council.

Upon signing of this agreement and ad-hoc committee shall be set up for the purpose of making the following practical arrangements for the first meeting of the fully constituted Military Council:

(a) Preparation of agenda for the meeting.

(b) Designation of date and venue for the meeting.

(c) Making necessary security and accommodation arrangements for the meeting.

Annexure A - Sequence of events leading to the formation of the new national army and the demobilisation and rehabilitation of combatant forces.

1. Signing of the agreement.

2. Ceasefire implementation.

3. Nomination of the country to provide the Monitoring/Observer Force commander and the reconnaissance team.

4. Formation of ceasefire committee and the nomination of its chairman.

5. Formation of the ad-hoc committee to prepare the first meeting of the Military Council.

6. Reconnaissance team deployment.

7. Monitoring/observer team deployment.

8. First meeting of the Military Council.

9. Formation and training of the new national force.

10. Formation and training of national army, demobilisation and rehabilitation.

11. Withdrawal of monitoring/observer teams.

12. Decommissioning of the ceasefire committee and the Monitoring/Observer Force.

The participants at the Uganda peace talks considered the requirements for training and formation of a new national army beginning with the new national force as the nucleus and made the following observations:

Training: To train a soldier takes approximately six months. However, converting those who had had basic military training would require approximately three to four months. Training an officer takes between nine and twelve months. It was therefore agreed that those with basic military training be put under cadre course and thereafter be utilized to train the others.

Formation of new national force: It has been agreed upon that a nucleus force of 8,480 soldiers be formed consisting of members from all the combatant forces. The subsequent recruitment and training would depend on availability of funds and training facilities. However, it was recommended and agreed that to train the 8,480 soldiers cannot be done at one go and therefore this would be done in stages which would take a minimum of nine months.

Further Pact Annexures

EA/81427 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 18 Dec 85 pp 1,6,7

[Excerpt]

Annexure B

The reconnaissance team and the Monitoring/Observer Force Terms of Reference for the Reconnaissance Team:

After the effectiveness of the ceasefire has been confirmed by the commander of all parties, a reconnaissance team will be sent to the field and their terms of reference will be as follows:

To confirm that the ceasefire is effective before the Monitoring-Observer Force moves into the country:

To identify the locations of all the fighting units and mark their positions on the map;

To assess the size of the Monitoring/Observer Force required:

To recommend to the Military Council the regrouping of various units (if necessary) for the ease of administration.

To recommend areas where assembly points will be located for the troops who are not in permanent barracks, preferably in areas with adequate storage facilities for the arms and also with good logistic/administration:

To recommend which forces should be disengaged:

To determine logistic support required for both the troops and Monitoring/Observer Force.

To work out evacuation contingency plans for the Monitoring/Observer Force members in the event of resumption of hostilities:

To recommend the locations of joint operation centres at regional level and sub-joint operational centres at district level:

Any other duty the Military Council may deem necessary.

The above task must be completed within one week.

The Military Council shall determine which country will provide the Monitoring/Observer Force commander, preferably the same country should provide the reconnaissance team.

Terms of Reference and Operational Strategies for monitoring-Observer Forces:

After the reconnaissance teams recommendations have been approved by the Military Council, the Monitoring/Observer Force will be deployed in various areas of the country and their terms of reference will be:

Unit Level: To maintain contact with all the combatant units:

To monitor and observe the maintenance of the ceasefire by the various forces:

To monitor and observe the movement of all the combatant troops:

To monitor and ensure that no arms are drawn without the authority of the local commander with the concurrence of the Monitoring/Observer team representatives, or higher authority.

To attend all the meetings of operational nature:

To liaise with Monitoring/Observer team leaders of the neighbouring units:

To send daily situation reports (sitreps) to sub-joint operation centre:

Any other duties the Military Council may deem necessary.

District level (sub-joint operation centre): The district s/joc will be responsible to the regional Joint Operation Centre (JOC) for:

Attending all the district security meetings: Co-ordinating all the activities of the Monitoring/Observer teams deployed in the district and compiling and sending daily sitreps to the regional joint operation centre:

Paying regular visits to the units within the district. Liaising with the district administration on operational and security matters and any other duty the Military Council may deem necessary.

The sub-joint operation centre will be comprised of: The district Administration, the Monitoring/Observer Force representative and representatives of fighting forces within the district.

Regional level (Joint Operation Centre): The Military Council shall appoint a person to be the chairman of the joint operation committee at the regional level. The regional joint operations centre will be responsible to the ceasefire committee for:

Attending all the regional security meetings, co-ordinating activities of the Monitoring/Observer teams deployed in the region, compiling and sending situation reports (sitreps) to the ceasefire committee, paying regular visits to the district headquarters within their region, liaising with the other regional monitoring/observer force representatives and any other duty the military council may deem necessary.

Annexure C

Manpower and Equipment Requirements for the Reconnaissance Team:

The reconnaissance team headquarters shall be composed of the following personnel: Recce team commander, deputy commander/ operations officer, logistics representatives, communications representative, medical representative, two staff officers, two Military Government representatives and two NRA representatives. The Military Council provide the supporting administrative staff.

Composition of each Recce team: Each Recce team shall be composed of the following personnel: Team leaders, Logistics/ administration representative, communications representative, two Military Government representatives, two NRA representatives, medical representative and one representative of the fighting force to be visited.

Number of teams: The Recce teams shall be allocated areas as follows:

Kampala and Mpigi Districts: One Recce team to cover Kampala and Mpigi districts. They would require road transport to visit areas where units are located, a helicopter may be used where necessary.

Central Region: One Recce team to cover Luwero, Mubenda and Mukong Districts. They would use a helicopter and partly road transport.

Western Region: One Recce team to cover Masaka, Rakai, Mbarara, Kabale, Rukungiri, Bushenyi, Kasese, Kabarole, Bundibugyo, Hoima and Masindi Districts. They would use a helicopter and partly road transport.

Eastern Region: One Recce team to cover Kamuli, Iganga, Jinja, Soroti, Moroto, Tororo, Mbale, Kapchorwa and Kumi Districts. They would use a helicopter and partly road transport.

Northern Region: One recce team to cover West Nile and the rest of Northern Uganda. They would use a helicopter and partly road transport.

Summary of the manpower and equipment requirements: Total manpower required - 51, total helicopters required - 6, total vehicles required: one staff car, 7 communication landrovers and 8 cargo landrovers. Radios for communication between the Recce teams and the headquarters will be required.

The Military Council will need to arrange for the following facilities to be available for use by the Recce team: Fuel for the helicopters and vehicles, feeding and accommodation, medical facilities, air and road transport, office facilities for the Recce team headquarters and any other facilities which may be deemed necessary.

Annexure D

Article 3 of the Geneva Convention for the amelioration of the condition of the wounded and sick in armed forces in the field dated the 12th August, conflicts not of an international character occurring in the territory of one of the high contracting parties, each party to the conflict shall be bound to apply, as a minimum, the following provisions:

Persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of Armed Forces who have laid down their arms and those placed hors de combat by sickness, wounds, detention, or any other case, shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction founded on race, colour, religion or faith, sex, birth or wealth, or any other similar criteria.

To this end the following acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to the above-mentioned persons:

Violence to life and persons, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture:

Taking of hostages:

Outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment:

The passing of sentences and the carrying out of executions without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court, affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognised as indispensable by civilised peoples.

The wounded and sick shall be collected and cared for.

An impartial humanitarian body, such as the international committee of the Red Cross, may offer its services to the parties to the conflict.

The parties to the conflict should further endeavour to bring into force, by means of special agreements, all or part of the other provisions of the present convention.

The application of the preceding provisions shall not affect the legal status of the parties to the conflict.

UGANDA

Okello Returns From Nairobi to Big Welcome
AB171435 Paris AFP in English 1335 GMT
 17 Dec 85

[Text] Kampala, Dec 17 (AFP) — Uganda's head of state General Tito Okello returned home to a big welcome today after signing a peace agreement in Nairobi with guerrilla opposition leader Yoweri Museveni.

Church leaders, foreign diplomats accredited to Uganda and top government officials turned up at Entebbe Airport to greet the chairman of the ruling military council, who made no speech on his arrival. Among religious leaders at the airport was Uganda's Roman Catholic primate, Emmanuel Cardinal Nsubuga, a frequent critic of the human rights records of Ugandan governments, who has usually been conspicuously absent from state functions. His presence at the welcome for General Okello is bound to be seen as a seal of approval for the Nairobi accord from the country's Roman Catholic community, which comprises about half the population.

The agreement is also likely to be supported by one of the main political parties, the former opposition Democratic Party, whose leader Paul Ssemogerere was a top negotiator for the government in the peace talks.

Uganda radio today suspended its programmes to give live coverage of the signing ceremony in Nairobi and the return of General Okello. Freshly-composed songs about peace were being played on the radio, many praising General Okello as the country's peace maker.

BURKINA FASO

Ivory Coast Criticized Over Ties With Israel

AB182245 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Ivory Coast, which was the last African country to break diplomatic relations with Israel, as of today becomes the third African country to have officially resumed its diplomatic relations with the Zionist state.

It was the Israeli prime minister, Shim'on Peres, himself, who announced this today. A secret meeting lasting several hours between him and President Felix Houphouet-Boigny in Geneva was enough to justify what we call the new marriage. Ivory Coast thus joins Zaire and Liberia which are the first African countries that have resumed diplomatic relations with the Zionist state.

They have all put forth lame excuses for resuming their diplomatic relations with a country which prevents a people — the Palestinian people — from living peacefully in their own land.

Returning to the Ivory Coast, let us say that the mask has finally fallen. In fact, since his recent press conference, the Ivorian president has criticized the Arab countries, accusing them of all the misfortunes of the world. But after due analysis, it was realized that that was just throwing dust into the eyes of the world. Houphouet has crossed the rubicon by deciding to resume relations with Israel. This is a slap in the face of militant Africa. Now, the question is: Did he need to go around and around so much in order to reach this point?

GAMBIA

Ex-Field Force Corporal Sentenced to Death

AB181226 Paris AFP in French 1852 GMT 17 Dec 85

[Text] Banjul, 17 Dec (AFP) — The Gambian Supreme Court today passed a death sentence on a former corporal of the Field Force (Gambian gendarmerie), Meta Camara, who had been accused of "high treason" for his part in the abortive coup d'etat in Banjul in July 1981.

Following the failure of the coup attempt, Mr Camara took refuge with many other putschists — including Kukoi Samba Sanyanga, the instigator of the attempt — in Guinea-Bissau. From Bissau, he went to Cuba, then to Libya with some of the putschists. He was later arrested by the Guinea-Bissau authorities who handed him over to the Gambia after he had tried, on his return from Libya, to get to Banjul from Guinea-Bissau.

A person sentenced to death here can make an appeal. He can also be granted presidential clemency. Not including ex-Corporal Meta Camara's sentence, a total of 34 persons have been sentenced to death by the Gambian Supreme Court for their participation in the abortive coup d'etat. All of them have had their death sentences commuted to life imprisonment by Gambian head of state Sir Dawda Jawara.

IVORY COAST

Diplomatic Relations With Israel Resumed

AB181838 Abidjan International Service in English
1820 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] The Israeli prime minister, Mr Shim'on Peres, was today received in audience in Geneva by the Ivorian head of state, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. The official communique issued at the end of the talks read that Mr Shim'on Peres and President Felix Houphouet-Boigny met in Geneva today. The two men focused on current international problems. The communique went on to say that Mr Peres expressed support for the policy of dialogue and peace of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. He said he was convinced that the president's peace and dialogue policy could be suitable within the framework of the Middle East.

The Israeli prime minister and the Ivorian head of state called on their respective governments to agree to the restoring of diplomatic ties between Israel and Ivory Coast.

Commentary on Ties

AB191110 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
0745 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Ouattara Gnozie's commentary]

[Text] So, the blue star of David of the Israeli flag will wave very shortly in our country, and similarly, the Ivorian colors: orange, white and green will reappear in Tel Aviv, the Jewish state's capital. In fact, those who have followed the developments in the Ivorian political life during the past few months will not be too surprised by the news. People have been expecting this even since the recent party congress during which the highest organs clearly defined the new foreign policy of Ivory Coast. From now on, the Ivorian diplomacy will work according to a watchword: Ivory Coast is everyone's friend and no one's enemy. In less diplomatic and political terms, this means that our country is ready to establish diplomatic relations with any country which asks for it but, of course, on the condition that that country respect Ivorian sovereignty and political options. As it appears, these are general measures announced by the congress which do not exclusively concern the Jewish state.

The Israelis, who have been knocking at the doors of African countries for years, including particularly Ivory Coast, have quickly seized the opportunity and have scrupulously respected the recommendations of the party concerning the establishment of relations with Ivory Coast. In fact, the communique issued at the end of the talks between Houphouet-Boigny and Shim'on Peres have clearly shown this. On his request, and only on his request, the Israeli prime minister was received by President Houphouet-Boigny. The head of the Israeli Government has even done better than what the resolutions of the congress demand. More than its pledge to respect Ivorian political options, the Israeli Government expresses its support to President Houphouet-Boigny's dialogue and peace policy. Thus, the necessary conditions for the reestablishment of the Israeli-Ivorian

relations are now fulfilled after being frozen for 12 years. In fact, the relations between the two countries were severed in 1973 when a new war broke out between Israel and Egypt — the Yom Kippur war — and in solidarity with Cairo, the OAU called on all the African states to sever their relations with Tel Aviv. Then, in spite of its very close bonds with the Jewish state and the considerable services that some Jews rendered it, Ivory Coast accepted the measure with sorrow after a great national debate. But, for a few years now, the Egyptian state, which was the cause for collective severance of relations with Israel, has started dealing with Israel and exchanged ambassadors. In this context, no one can understand any longer the true motives for which the African Continent, rather, some countries, continue to call for the isolation of the Jewish state.

For its own part, Ivory Coast, which is pursuing a policy of total sovereignty, has decided to be consistent by putting an end to the confusion. It will, therefore, be the sixth African country to renew relations with Tel Aviv; Botswana, Malawi, Lesotho, Swaziland, Liberia, and Zaire have already reestablished their relations with Israel.

Six countries reestablished their relations with Israel, but in fact, at least some 20 countries already have, more or less, relations with the Jewish state, particularly military and economic relations. In the military field, Israel sells weapons to many African countries and especially contributes to the reorganization of the security services of several states. Finally, in the economic field, large Israeli enterprises and companies are very reputable and wanted on the continent, especially in the building and public works sector.

In Tel Aviv, the Israeli officials are aware of that fact. It is said that Israel has tripled its sales to Africa and has today on our continent twice as many experts as in 1973 when diplomatic relations were severed. It is worth noting that just during the past year the Jewish state has signed with about 20 African countries contracts worth about \$1 billion or 400 billion CFA francs, including \$200 billion with only one country south of the Sahara, which unofficially has no kind of relations with Israel. So, Israel has never been more present on the continent. President Houphouët-Boigny's initiative is perhaps the beginning of the clarification of the relations between Israel and Africa.

LIBERIA

Senate, House of Representatives Elect Officers

AB182150 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT
18 Dec 85

[Text] The members of the Liberian Senate-elect today elected Grand Gedeh County Senator-elect Mr John G. Ramsey as president pro tempore officer of the Senate. Members of the House of Representatives also elected Bomi County Representative-elect Mr (Samuel D. Hill) as speaker for the House of Representatives while Mr (Alfred B. Credis) of Montserrado County was elected deputy speaker for the House of Representatives. The elections, according to reports, were unanimous. These follow a day after Secom's [Special Elections

Commission] certification of the vice president-elect and members-elect of the legislature.

NIGER

Kountche Delivers Independence Day Address

AB181058 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 17 Dec 85

[Address by President Seyni Kountche on the 27th anniversary of the proclamation of the republic — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Nigériens, my dear countrymen: If the year 1985 marks for posterity the 27th anniversary of the proclamation of our republic, it will also be known in the history of Niger as one of the most difficult and most trying years in the history of our people. The disastrous 1984 agricultural season led us to forecast a bleak future. We therefore waited for this moment calmly and serenely with the unflinching resolution to face it with dignity. Therefore, the year 1985 found us already mobilized, prepared, and determined to cope with any difficulties. Thanks to God, we succeeded beyond all expectations in preserving our society from an irreparable dislocation. We were able to save some of our compatriots from the humiliation of [words indistinct] and even of an exodus without any hope of returning. We succeeded in saving our people from the pangs of famine and we won the admiration of people of good will, of generous nations, and of international organizations.

Three factors, it is worth recalling, contributed to this success. There was first of all the great solicitude of the international community and the remarkable and unprecedented outpouring of solidarity which strengthened us and eased our minds. The degree of mobilization of our people in this struggle, their courage in the face of adversity, and their determination to succeed were indeed worthy of praise. We knew that the Nigériens, who are a people imbued with dignity and [words indistinct], could not take pleasure in resignation in the face of misfortune because they will always manage to find within themselves the necessary instruments for this struggle for their own survival. The third factor responsible for our success was the relatively abundant rainfall [words indistinct]. In fact, the 1985 rainy season was favorably different from earlier ones and therefore galvanized the courage of our brave farmers and made them determined to exact just revenge over past unfavorable rainfalls.

The results of this year's agricultural production have therefore strengthened confidence and appeased anxiety which the inexorable advance of the desert nevertheless continues to arouse. The relative abundance of the last harvests cannot alone make up for the deficits accumulated over the years. Similarly, however abundant it may be, rainfall alone cannot stop the harmful degradation of our ecosystem. However, I consider (this year's) favorable rainfall a respite granted us by providence to enable us to catch our breath and bind our wounds. But we must remain realistic: Self-sufficiency in food will not happen tomorrow. This is why we strongly insist again this year on the need to engage in out-of-season farming which should be extended to all areas suitable for it. As you know, our agriculture must be able to feed all our people, however deficient it may be; it must feed

all our people both in the cities and the rural areas. Without this performance, self-sufficiency in food will remain a mere slogan without any significance.

Yet, our agriculture can satisfy our needs if we adapt it to the age-old constraints of our ecology and if we readjust our consumption to what our soil is still capable of producing. I would like you to know that our policy of self-sufficiency in food is based on two main pillars. The first is the generalization of out-of-season farming which will bring us a non-negligible amount of food as well as help us save part of our main-season grain crops. The second task of our policy will consist in increasing the number of multifunctional water supply points, especially in the [words indistinct] agricultural areas.

This policy of increased agricultural production can succeed only if it is based on the general mobilization of all valid elements of all social categories and of all age groups in Niger for a massive return to farming. Farming constitutes an essential activity for our independence and the safeguarding of our dignity [words indistinct]. Henceforth, agriculture should constitute the primary activity of all the sons and daughters of Niger for it is obvious that we can build Niger and prepare it to enter the community of nations only if we free ourselves from the problem of food shortage and the threat of desert encroachment. To do this, we must organize ourselves to act together in a spirit of unity. In this connection, I would like to remind the National Union of Cooperatives of the magnitude of their responsibilities in this field as far as a wiser management and a veritable and more rational supervision of all farms are concerned.

As far as stock-breeding is concerned, it became necessary to effect some reorganization in our administrative structures. The creation of the Ministry of Animal Resources — while reflecting the government's desire to accord this key sector of our economy its deserved importance — aims at implementing the pertinent recommendations of the conference of Tahoua. The reconstitution and safeguarding of our livestock against the evil effects of drought demand the adoption of a strategy that should break away from the present archaic stock-breeding system which is too routine. The program of reconstituting our livestock, which will soon be launched, will not be like the one of 1975. A privileged place and even preference will be given to sheep and

goats. In fact, the progressive desertification of our grazing lands demands more than ever the adaptation, that is the reconversion of our [words indistinct].

This brings me to the topic of desertification. The year 1985 made it possible for us to witness the most fortunate initiatives as far as reforestation is concerned. Nevertheless, I must again remind you that it is not only a question of planting trees but also of jealously taking care of them, of protecting them from animals, from suffocation by weeds, and from dehydration.

In quite a different field, you know how much our country's economic situation is preoccupying us, how much the unemployment situation has deteriorated within the past few years, and especially how much stagnation and recession have gained ground in the business sector. However, instead of giving way to despair, we must arm ourselves with courage and make an effort to steer the Niger ship of state along the path of (?renewal) and hope. More than ever before, we must collectively and individually compel ourselves to observe greater economic discipline. We must avoid waste and manage the meager resources at our disposal.

In the field of economic affairs, it is high time we in Niger engage less in state enterprises, like all countries that claim to be liberal. First of all, we will grant more opportunities for private initiative which we will do by liberalizing all the economic sectors and thus encourage the citizens to progressively become owners of (?useful) enterprises. This will involve the transfer of the (?land) and industrial estate which is now being managed by the state.

Apart from the activities of relaunching and redressing the economy that is demanded by the current difficult situation, 1986 must be for us a year of reflection and meditation — first of all reflection and meditation on the sufferings endured and the deprivations resulting from shattered hopes [words indistinct]. And then there must be reflection and meditation about the necessary and indispensable interdependence between the Nigerian citizens in the south and those in the north; between the people in the west and those in the east; between the towns and villages; and between the citizens inside the country and those living abroad.

ANGOLA

Romania's Ceaucescu Congratulates Dos Santos
MB190607 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 0500 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, was congratulated by Nicolae Ceaucescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, on his reelection as chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the Republic.

In his message, Nicolae Ceaucescu stressed the good relations between the two parties and states, and emphasized their continued development for the good of the two peoples, who seek peace, cooperation, and international understanding.

Dos Santos Receives Sao Tome Envoy, Cuban Minister
MB181432 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 1200 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, received in Futungo de Belas yesterday the ambassador to Angola of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, (Arestes Castelo David). The Sao Tomean diplomat delivered on that occasion a verbal message from Manuel Pinto da Costa, president of Sao Tome.

In another audience in Futungo de Belas, the Angolan head of state received Ricardo Cabrisas, Cuban minister of foreign trade. The Cuban minister delivered a message from Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of Ministers and State, to President dos Santos. Ricardo Cabrisas came to Angola to participate in another session of the joint Angola-Cuba committee on external trade which ended in Luanda yesterday with the signing of an agreement. The agreement, which will extend until 1990, provides for cooperation in the sugar industry as well as for Cuban salt to be exported to Angola for consumption or re-export to other countries.

At the end of the joint Angola-Cuba committee meeting, an agreement of intent was signed to promote bilateral cooperation in the publishing fields. Maquimport, an Angolan enterprise, and (Editiones) a Cuban enterprise, signed the agreement.

Trade Relations Praised
MB190523 Luanda ANGOP in French 1614 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] Luanda, 18 Dec (ANGOP) — Ismael Martins, Angolan minister of external trade, said in Luanda on Tuesday that the trade relations between Angola and Cuba will be strengthened and that there are good prospects for increasing them on an annual basis.

The Angolan minister, who was speaking at the signing of a cooperation agreement between Angola and Cuba in the field of external trade, added that in the 1986-90 period, the People's

Republic of Angola will strengthen and diversify its export capabilities and will trade with more countries. Ismael Martins also expressed his satisfaction with the increased trade relations between the two countries in the fields of culture and education through the supply of publications, books, and school materials from Cuba. The minister said that this donation will ease Angola's need in these fields.

For his part, Ricardo Cabrisas, Cuban minister of foreign trade, said that the trade relations between his country and the People's Republic of Angola are proof of the political will expressed by the two countries and not merely commercial relations. He added that these relations seek to satisfy the needs of the two peoples and respond to a real and objective international division of labor.

The Cuban delegation was led by Ricardo Cabrisas, who was accompanied by Rafael Almeida, vice minister of agriculture [title as received]. During his stay in Angola, he was received by the Angolan head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

The members of the delegation also held meetings with other Angolan officials; namely, Pedro de Castro van Dunem Loy, minister of energy and petroleum; Lopo do Nascimento, minister of planning; Evaristo Domingos Kimba, minister of agriculture; and Bernardo de Sousa, minister of transport and communications. The Cuban delegation was scheduled to leave Luanda on Tuesday for Cuba.

COMOROS

President Abdallah Returns From Paris Summit
AB181150 Paris AFP in French 1818 GMT 17 Dec 85

[Text] Moroni, 17 Dec (AFP) — Comoros President Ahmed Abdallah returned to Moroni today from Paris where he took part in the 12th France-Africa summit. On the occasion of the summit, French President Francois Mitterrand expressed the view that the "law separating Mayotte from the other islands is an error" and recalled that he himself had defended the Comoros president's present position on this issue in 1974 when he was a parliamentarian.

MOZAMBIQUE

President Machel Continues Manica Province Visit
MB181149 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
 1030 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] President Samora Machel visited the Chimoio district in Manica Province this morning to learn about the operation of a number of agricultural sectors as part of his tour of that province.

At a reception hosted by Manica Province Governor Manuel Antonio yesterday, President Samora Machel reaffirmed that the objective of his visit is to gather information on the struggle against famine and armed banditry, so that these experiences may be shared with the other provinces in the country.

I will say no more about Manica Province, but I must point out that Manica is where we must all learn because it has never known peace, and it is successfully carrying out its struggle against famine and armed banditry, the Mozambican head of state declared.

In his speech, President Samora Machel referred to Rhodesian aggression against the province and the criminal actions of the armed bandits.

NAMIBIA

Administrator General Comments on Independence

*MB180847 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] The administrator general of South-West Africa, Mr Louis Pienaar, says the South African Government wants to bring about the independence of South-West Africa but no date has been set for achieving the objective.

Mr Pienaar says the manner in which South Africa is going to approach the independence issue in future will rest mainly with the internal parties. According to him the parties will need time to prepare, among other things, a constitution.

SOUTH AFRICA

Further on Landmine Explosion; Talks With Zimbabwe

Talks 'Next Week'

*MB182001 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] The area commanders of the defense forces of Zimbabwe and South Africa are expected to hold talks near Messina early next week. Initially it was reported that talks on the security situation along the South African-Zimbabwean border, after the recent ANC landmine explosions, would take place today or tomorrow. Confirmation that the talks would now take place next week was given by a spokesman for the SADF.

Transvaal Commander Comments

*MB181957 Johannesburg Television Service in English
1700 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] Landmines still pose a threat in the Soutpansberg military area and the defense forces have sent special equipment and are taking precautionary measures in the area to counter the danger. The defense force met in Messina today with members of the town's community. This report from Louis de Villiers:

[Begin video][De Villiers] At a meeting here at the school hall in Messina, the families made one thing quite clear to the military — they wanted strong action against those who had planted the mines. The commanding general of far Northern Transvaal Command, Major General Charles Lloyd, said the border had to be sealed effectively. That was a priority. Illegal immigrants

working as farm laborers also posed a problem as they often acted as ANC contacts. The officer commanding in the region Colonel Johan Swanepoel, envisaged the possibility of another incursion at the next full moon.

[Swanepoel] At the moment the situation is under control. We are working in the priority areas, the areas where the landmines were planted. We are working at the area at the moment, and I think it is well under control. Of course, we cannot accept that no mines will be planted in the area in the time to come. We are prepared to cope with that possibility and secondly, we want to inform our local people, our population of farmers, and everybody else, that that possibility exists. We are searching farms, we are searching for mines, and we are working on the possibility that there are definitely still mines in the area. And further, as I said, we are also working on the possibility that any night our enemy can come across and plant mines again.

[De Villiers] Colonel, you are the man who is to hold talks with the Zimbabwean area commander today or tomorrow. What exactly will you tell him?

[Swanepoel] The most important point being that we want to get assurance from them that the area on their side, the area on the northern side of the Limpopo, is under control. That is the important point, or answer, that I would like to get from those people.

[De Villiers] The people here are much afraid of the attacks against soft targets like school children. What will the defense force do about this?

[Swanepoel] We have taken a series of steps, precautions, which will definitely include school buses, our children, et cetera. It is important to us to safeguard our people against any attacks of any sort. [end video]

Application To Return Boesak's Passport Rejected

*MB190943 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0942 GMT
19 Dec 85*

[Text] Cape Town, Dec 19, SAPA — An application by Dr Allan Boesak for the return of his passport was dismissed with costs by a full bench of the Cape Supreme Court today.

Dr Boesak's passport was withdrawn by the minister of home affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, last month. Mr Botha and the regional representative of his department were named as respondents in Dr Boesak's application. Written judgment was handed down today by Mr Justice Friedman.

The judge rejected an argument by Mr E.L. King, SC [Senior Counsel], for Dr Boesak, that in terms of the new constitution, the minister of home affairs was not legally entitled to withdraw Dr Boesak's passport.

"There is nothing in the 1983 Constitution which obliges the executive state president to exercise a personal discretion in all general affairs decisions.

"I therefore conclude that first respondent, as the minister responsible for the Department of Home Affairs which is the department which deals with the question relating to the issue and withdrawal of passports, was legally entitled to take the decision to cancel applicant's passports," the judge said.

Mr Justice Friedman said that having regard for the "wide discretion" vested in the minister, he did not think there was any substance in the argument that the minister had not given "proper consideration to the matter."

He did not consider that the minister's decision was "grossly unreasonable" and in his view there was no basis for contending that Dr Boesak had a legal right to a hearing before his passport was withdrawn.

Miss Justice van de Heever and Mr Justice Vivier concurred.

Mr S. Desai, for Dr Boesak, asked for leave to appeal to the appellate division. Mr Justice Friedman said he was "inclined to grant" leave but the decision would have to be taken by the full court.

The court adjourned but reconvened shortly afterwards. Mr Justice Friedman told Mr Desai that he had communicated with his fellow judges. They agreed that as the matter involved difficult questions of constitutional law, a reasonable possibility existed that another court would come to a different decision. Leave to appeal was therefore granted.

An obviously disappointed Dr Boesak told waiting newsmen and television crews outside the court that, for the sake of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches — of which he is president — and his numerous local responsibilities, he felt he should take the issue "to the highest level."

"In the meantime, my reputation and my work will suffer but we will not stop until we've tried every avenue," he said.

UDF President Says AZAPO Must Change Priorities

*MB181707 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1653 GMT
18 Dec 85*

[Text] Durban, Dec 18, SAPA — The Azanian Peoples Organisation would have to set its priorities right before it would become acceptable to the United Democratic Front (UDF), Mr Archie G. Gumede, UDF president, said today. He was reacting to a call made by AZAPO's new president Mr Sath Cooper for the two anti-apartheid bodies to join hands to stop what Mr Cooper described as internecine violence.

Mr Cooper told AZAPO's annual congress in Durban this week he trusted the UDF and its former treason trialists would accept the invitation AZAPO was extending.

Mr Gumede said today his UDF would have no difficulty in taking Mr Cooper's offer seriously if AZAPO dropped its insistence on race being a paramount factor in the conduct of affairs.

"I have noted that AZAPO has elected an Indian as its new president suggesting that it has at last discarded its holier than thou stance in regard to race", he said. Mr Gumede said AZAPO's rejection of solutions to end apartheid imposed by external forces, including the Commonwealth, was not acceptable as was its rejection of a national convention to bring about a new South Africa.

"The UDF is a get together of people from different backgrounds with a lot of give and take, and AZAPO will have to come down to earth and see South Africa and its people as they are", Mr Gumede said.

Stellenbosch Students, UDF, Inkatha Members Meet

*MB180747 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] The group of Stellenbosch University students which wanted to hold talks with the banned ANC in Lusaka earlier this year has held talks in Durban with representatives of the United Democratic Front (UDF) and leaders of the Inkatha movement at Ulundi. The national organizer of the Inkatha youth brigade, Mr Ntwe Mafole, told the SABC after the talks at Ulundi that the two groups had agreed to meet again at some later date.

Prison Official Admits Children Held With Adults

*MB190559 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1814 GMT
18 Dec 85*

[Text] Cape Town, Dec 18, SAPA — The Department of Prisons today conceded that under certain circumstances, children who are in detention are detained in the same cells as adults.

On Monday a spokesman for the prison services said that "juveniles under the age of 16 are held separately."

He was responding to a statement by former detainee, Mr Dullah Omar, that children were being incarcerated in cells with adults, and who, when asked for comment on the prisons statement that juveniles were held separately, replied: "I wish the prison doors could be opened for inspection so that people can see for themselves."

In a separate development related to child detainees, the police public relations division in Pretoria today said detentions of children held in terms of emergency regulations were "regularly considered."

Ridwaan Kariem, 14, and Hans Harmse, who turned 16 while in detention, have now been detained for 51 days.

In the prisons statement, Lieutenant Colonel D.J. Immelman said today that "it is the policy of the South African Prisons Service that juveniles admitted to prison are as far as possible kept separately from adults by detaining them in separate cells and/or separate sections.

"Circumstances may however prevail where exceptions have to be accommodated, but this handled with the utmost responsibility."

ity. Prisons Regulation 104 (2) provides that judges from the supreme court have free access to any prison and may talk to any prisoner, including detainees, and may report thereon. Magistrates have the same access to prisoners in their area of jurisdiction. From reports which are received regularly, it is clear that the treatment which prisoners are receiving is generally in line with legal and other directives which are based on internationally accepted standard minimum rules. According to an earlier statement by the minister of justice, judge presidents had been requested to make more judges available to visit detainees. These increased visits are now in progress."

The statement from police headquarters came after a Cape Town newspaper telexed Pretoria and asked what action was being taken with regard to the continued detention in Victor Verster Prison near Paarl of Ridwaan Kariem, Hans Harmse, Palus Ramnawana, 15, N. Mancini and M. Mancini, both aged around 14 or 15, Mathew Andrews, 16 and Edwin Wilson, 16.

The newspaper telex to Pretoria said that "on December 5, 1985, Lieutenant Colonel Leon Mellet, Press Liaison officer for the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, said the continued detention of these children was receiving urgent attention."

Pretoria Boycott 'Pamphlet War' Intensifies

*MB181132 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1128 GMT
18 Dec 85*

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 18, SAPA — A boycott pamphlet war that has been raging in Pretoria's black townships intensified yesterday as the consumer boycott of white businesses entered its third week.

Yesterday afternoon while the Pretoria business community dropped thousands of "safe shopping" pamphlets (similar to the ones distributed in Mamelodi last week) from a helicopter over Atteridgeville, the security forces manning roadblocks at the entrances to the township distributed handbills to motorists promising the residents protection.

By nightfall, the Pretoria Consumer Boycott Committee (PCBC) had dismissed the anti-boycott campaign as "desperate calls." In a lengthy statement it said it was confident that "our people will continue to ignore these calls."

The security force pamphlets said that at the request of the people of Atteridgeville, the security forces were conducting intensified patrols in the township and Pretoria.

There would be additional security forces in uniform and plain clothes on patrol in the township, on trains and buses, at bus, train and taxi terminuses, as well as at shopping centres in the city.

"Intimidators will be arrested," it declared. These actions were being taken, the pamphlet said, because "a large number of peace-loving residents of Atteridgeville" wanted to spend a happy Christmas. The people wanted a chance to buy goods for Christmas and "the people have asked the security forces for protection against intimidators."

The PCBC condemned "businessmen and the police for trying to break the boycott, because they won't succeed."

The committee said, however, that it was prepared to negotiate.

However, conditions attached to talks were the release of all those arrested in connection with the consumer boycott and for police to stop harassing those who are still outside." [quotation marks as received]

Police Report Unrest Incidents, Arrests

18 Dec Evening Report

*MB181740 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1711 GMT
18 Dec 85*

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 18, SAPA — Here follows the 7 pm unrest situation report issued by the Public Relations Division of the SAP in Pretoria.

In the black residential area of Newtown, Paarl, a petrol bomb hurled at a truck early this morning caused slight damage to the vehicle. During a crime prevention/detection operation in the black residential area of George (South-Western Districts), last night, police arrested 41 black males for a number of offences, including arson, public violence, housebreaking, stock theft and trading in dagga [marijuana].

In Soweto, (Witwatersrand) a group of people looted a milk delivery vehicle.

In Alexandra near Johannesburg, a group of people petrol-bombed a bus, causing fairly extensive damage. Elsewhere in Alexandra, a car was stoned and set alight. In KwaThema on the East Rand, a delivery and a private vehicle were stoned and slightly damaged.

In Phillippi black residential area in the Western Province, two private vehicles were damaged by stone-throwers.

19 Dec Morning Report

*MB190618 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0616 GMT
19 Dec 85*

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 19, SAPA — Following is police situation unrest report overnight to 8 am. Issued by the public relations division of the SAP:

Very few incidents of unrest occurred since the previous report. At Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand], about 15 black looted a milk delivery vehicle.

At Alexander near Johannesburg, a bus was extensively damaged when blacks using a petrol bomb set it on fire.

In Paarl, police had to fire birdshot to disperse stonethrowers in the Mbekweni township. No injuries were reported.

33 Arrested in Raid

*MB181437 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1431 GMT
18 Dec 85*

[Text] Cape Town, Dec 18, SAPA — Police in George have arrested 33 people, eight of them on public violence charges, during a swoop in the Lawaaiikamp area near here. The raid began late last night and ended early today.

Stolen property, including 16 bicycles, six television sets, five generators, three radios and a tug-of-war rope were recovered by police, who also confiscated dagga [marijuana] worth R11,000, 50l of an "unlawful concoction" and groceries worth R8,000. Confirming the raid, Major Eddie Snyman, a police liaison officer, said it followed "numerous crimes" in the area. Those arrested may face charges including stock theft, arson and possession of explosives.

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency**18 Dec Press Review**

MB180642 [Editorial Report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency and related topics:

STAR on Landmine Explosion

The Johannesburg *STAR* in English for 17 December says in an editorial on Sunday's landmine explosion that "no grievance, no political objective can justify killing people at random." The ANC's quick acceptance of responsibility "suggests that this is the path it wishes to take." But, it is too easy after such an incident "to allow anger to overwhelm good sense," the editorial cautions. The recent explosions cannot be seen as a demonstration of ANC strength and ANC denials that its terrorists are coming from Zimbabwe ring hollow. But this is not "justification for launching an impulsive strike," the editorial says. The two countries, the editorial concludes, must meet to discuss a common problem: "How to control the terrorism neither condones." This need "transcends a desire for revenge."

COSATU Support of Boycott

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English for 17 December comments in an editorial how "incongruous" it was to see the newly formed Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) join hands with Britain's Trade Unions Congress in applauding the announcement that six more UK chain stores would boycott South African goods. "It is understandable that trade unions — particularly black ones — will take strong political stands" in South Africa as long as the authorities continue to "throttle" legitimate black aspirations, the editorial says, but there is a difference between challenging pass laws and supporting boycotts of goods manufactured, presumably, by COSATU's own members. "How can a labor organisation support action which could result in its own members being put on the streets?" This has very little to do with improving the lot of its members, the editorial says. The "inevitable result" of boy-

cotts and sanctions is rising unemployment and social upheaval, the editorial concludes.

Damage to Black Schools

A *BUSINESS DAY* article quotes a Department of Education and Training spokesman as saying that about 4.7-million-rands damage had been caused to 126 black schools from September 1984 to October 1985 and that 13 schools were almost totally destroyed. Repairs would only be considered a priority if they were necessary in order to prevent further damage. Although no regional breakdown was given, schools in the Eastern Cape were reported to be worst hit.

Pretoria Black Boycott

The Johannesburg *CITIZEN* in English on 17 December reports that Pretoria businessmen and the authorities have curbed the black consumer boycott and predict its "gradual demise." Sales were reported improved over the weekend following a campaign to protect shoppers from intimidators. Pamphlets urging township shoppers to go about their shopping under the protection of the police were dropped over Mamelodi and security forces then manned transport terminals and other points of concentration for shoppers. The chairman of the committee which launched the campaign said black citizens were "becoming increasingly fed up with the boycott and the indignities they are being subject to by intimidators."

CITIZEN on ANC

Commenting on the recent landmine blast which killed six people, the *CITIZEN* says there can be no negotiation with the ANC while it continues its terrorism. There can be no justification for businessmen, politicians or students speaking to the ANC nor any justification for regarding the ANC as an essential part of the negotiating process. Until such time as the ANC is prepared to abandon the "so-called armed struggle, which is a euphemism for terrorism, it should be treated as the illegal terrorist organisation that it is," the *CITIZEN* says. The editorial cautions against going in "hot pursuit" of the terrorists across the Zimbabwe border, but says it should be clear to Zimbabwe, Botswana and other neighbors that if they help the terrorists or let them cross the border, "they will have only themselves to blame if South Africa strikes back."

Consumer Goods Destroyed

The Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 17 December reports that hundreds of rands worth of goods and articles were destroyed in roadblocks manned by gangs of youths enforcing the consumer boycott in Soweto at the weekend. Youths stopped vehicles and searched passenger's parcels, and parcels thought to have been bought from white-owned shops were destroyed. A check by the *SOWETAN* around Johannesburg on Saturday showed few black shoppers. Most people were seen in the streets carrying unmarked plastic bags and one customer was seen packing groceries into a suitcase, the paper reports.

Detention Without Trial

In its editorial in the same issue, the *SOWETAN* comments on detention without trial, calling it a "trick used by the Government to silence those it cannot build a case against." Detention without trial has created more harm than most laws, the editorial says, and "should be immediately scrapped." The government must by now realize that silencing people will not help solve the country's problems. There is only one solution to the problem, the editorial concludes: "If people have to be arrested, let them be brought before the courts of law for the law to take its course."

Johannesburg Consumer Boycott

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 14 December says in an article that the "consumer boycott will have less chance of succeeding in Johannesburg than in other cities." This is the view of Mr Marius de Jager executive director of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce. He says: "We have had no complaints from our members that they have been seriously hit by the boycott. The success of the consumer boycott will depend on the success of the intimidation campaign."

RAPPORT on ANC

Johannesburg *RAPPORT* in Afrikaans on 15 December says in an editorial that "in South Africa there was continued debate this year surrounding the ANC — whether it was about releasing Mandela or who should talk to the ANC in Lusaka." This is not surprising. Banned or not, the ANC is an important element in the South African security and political situation and cannot be wished away. The debate is necessary because the ANC cannot be ignored, it notes. Concluding, it says: "We must think carefully about the ANC but we must also look at it with both eyes."

Job-Creating Program

Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans on 13 December says in an article that "the government's job-creating program, for which 600 million rand has been set aside, is progressing so well that a quarter of a million unemployed will benefit from the training program." This is the view of the minister of manpower, Mr Pietie du Plessis. According to him the reaction, cooperation, and spirit of the various authorities to which funds have been made available were outstanding.

Black Political Rights

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 13 December says in an article by political correspondent Frikkie Odendaal that "black political rights will be a priority in the 1986 government agenda." Besides the implementation of approved legislation, a whole new series is expected in the new year which will involve the inclusion of blacks in the political and economic spheres. Despite all the steps taken on reform the country has been hard hit by disinvestment, unrest, and greater demands for reform. Concluding, it says: "The question remains whether next year's negotiating process will progress to such an extent that a new dispensation for black participation will become clearer."

19 Dec Press Review

MB190625 [Editorial Report] British Company Closes — Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 18 December reports that the "leading British home appliance company Valor yesterday announced it was pulling out of SA because of uncertainty over the business climate." The company chairman said it had sold its Cadac camping equipment subsidiary to local interests. A spokesman denied the move was in response to a call by British trade unions for sanctions.

Shipping Firm Closes

BUSINESS DAY reports that Ewings MacDonald, South Africa's fourth-largest shipping firm, asked the Rand Supreme Court to "set up a salvage operation for the R93.4 m it owes to bankers." The company took such action after Citibank had refused to participate in a plan to save it. According to the firm's managing director, if the firm could not arrange a way to save itself, 100 clients would go down with it.

Press Restrictive

In a *BUSINESS DAY* report from London, John Battersby writes that "SA has become the most restrictive country in the democratic world on the issue of press freedom, the International Press Institute (IPI) has found." According to the IPI, "the news coverage of the violence was 'as dangerous as the violence itself.'"

Editorial on Emigration

In an editorial, *BUSINESS DAY* notes that "government keeps congratulating itself that there is no chicken run from South Africa." Figures show that emigration figures are lower now than between 1961 and 1980. "Self-deception has become an essential part of running this country, so a degree of complacency is to be expected. No doubt government believes this reflects general support of its policies. But has it considered the possibility that the only reason there is no chicken run is because we have a currency that isn't worth a dime," the paper asks.

Buthelezi-ANC Conflict

An article in *BUSINESS DAY* by Political Correspondent Paul Bell notes that the conflict between Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the ANC has continued to grow and has widened this year "virtually into open war." Bell reports that Buthelezi has written newspaper editors to ask them to judge who is to blame in the war of words between the ANC and Inkatha. Buthelezi says he is being attacked because every success achieved in moving the country toward negotiation "deeply threatens the ANC, which is why they attack him." He says it would be "hideously irresponsible" to allow the ANC propaganda campaign to destroy Inkatha.

Detentions Top 10,000

"More than 10,600 people were detained under emergency regulations or the Internal Security Act this year, according to the latest report of the Detainees' Parents Support Committee,"

BUSINESS DAY reports. Of this, it is estimated that over 1,000 are still being held. The official SAP total is 6,438 with 949 still being held.

CITIZEN on Black Youth

The *CITIZEN*'s editorial on 18 December says "one of the most worrying aspects of the unrest has been the behavior of Black youth." Besides the acts of violence, the paper questions their attitude of "liberation first, education later," saying that if there were a revolution — "and it is not going to happen next year or the following year and probably not at all" — what good would uneducated leaders be. All their demands are "purely political." "It is all or nothing, and nothing is going to be the lot of those who foolishly abandon education for the sake of a political struggle which cannot compensate them for their lost years." Although they have suffered, the paper assured black youth that "whatever the deprivations your elders have suffered, the present time of change will ensure that they and you will have a brighter, more rewarding and just future."

Students To Meet Smith

Political correspondent Brian Stuart reports in the *CITIZEN* that a group of Stellenbosch students who planned to talk to the ANC in Lusaka "are due in Johannesburg today for discussions with the Reverend Nico Smith, who intended to lead a church group of a similar mission." The students were also due to have talks with black community leaders and white businessmen.

Three Die in Soweto

The 18 December *SOWETAN* reports that three people, including an elderly couple, died in the township over the weekend. The elderly couple were trapped "inside their Zola house by a group of people who allegedly wanted to avenge the death of a youth. The couple was accused of hiding their son who had allegedly killed the youth. The two were then burnt alive in the house." A 20-year-old youth was also killed when he was identified as "having been part of a group that clashed with the 'Comrades' after the disrupting of a party at the weekend." Although he tried to hide, the man was dragged out, stabbed several times and doused with petrol before being set on fire, the paper was told.

Mayor Wants More Land

The mayor of Atteridgeville said the "South African Government must stop playing truant and allow people of all races to share land in this country," the *SOWETAN* reports. Speaking during a tour by Constitutional and Development and Planning Minister Heunis, the mayor warned against the government proclaiming a nearby farm as an Indian residential area. This decision has met with opposition from the community.

Anti-Boycott Pamphlets

"The Pretoria Consumer Boycott Committee yesterday lashed out at the continued distribution of pamphlets opposed to the boycott," *SOWETAN* says. The latest pamphlets claim the boycott is breaking down and residents of Soshanguve have asked for protection when doing their shopping. The pamphlets were issued

by the Pretoria Business Community and the People's Awareness Committee. A spokesman for the boycott committee advised people not to heed the call.

SOWETAN on Violence

In an editorial entitled "Let Us Act Now," the *SOWETAN* notes the continuing reports of deaths throughout the country, including the whites killed in the northern Transvaal. "The blood trail that is being left in this country must be stopped," it says. While the government may go on a "revenge mission" against Zimbabwe, the paper says, they must know by now that this does not work. The only way to solve the problem "is to address the internal political situation in the country." It doubts that the government has the capacity to face up to reality. "Unless that is done, all other efforts will come to nought," the paper concludes.

Mamelodi Security Forces

The Johannesburg *STAR* in English on 18 December reports that members of the security forces stationed in Pretoria's black township of Mamelodi have been accused by several residents of demanding liquor at gunpoint. Residents said they could identify some of the servicemen but were afraid to lay charges. The commandant of the Pretoria North police said residents should report allegations to the local police station "so the cases can be investigated."

Torture Report Defended

THE STAR reports that the Institute of Criminology at the University of Cape Town has issued a statement defending its "torture" reports and calling on the minister of law and order to eradicate the possibility of torture in all forms of security and emergency detention. The institute was responding to criticism of its torture report, released in September, in which it said that 83 percent of former detainees interviewed in a 2 and one-half year study claimed they were assaulted while in detention. The institute said the report had produced "good and sound social scientific evidence," and said the law minister's claim that official figures refuted the findings of the report "could not be supported."

Findings on Bullet Injuries

THE STAR says in another article that a report in the "South African Medical Journal" says that serious injuries caused by rubber and plastic bullets warrant the discontinuance of their use as a means of riot control. The findings were taken from a study of plastic bullet injuries to the face and jaw during unrest in South Africa in 1984 and experience gained in other countries. The report says that the "low death rate associated with plastic bullets gave soldiers sufficient confidence to fire the weapon at will and not as a last resort," but the resulting injuries are "probably too severe for effective riot control using minimum force."

ESCOM Equal Opportunities

The Electricity Supply Commission (ESCOM) has announced an official equal opportunities policy for employees of all races and has undertaken to investigate a number of racial issues relating to employment, *THE STAR* reports. It quotes the senior general manager of ESCOM as saying the ultimate goal is to weld the 66,000 employees "into a strong and effective team" and that meetings have been held with trade unions to convey ESCOM's commitment to maintaining equal opportunities.

Official on Tricameral System

STAR political reporter Gary van Staden quotes National People's Party official Kassim Isman as saying that people are becoming "disenchanted" with the tricameral system. Isman is reported as saying that the tricameral system is especially not working at the local level and accused ministers and MP's of "not delivering the goods." The tricameral system has the same problems as the old South African Indian Council: "We ... are finding the power still firmly in the hands of white city councillors and white Government departments," Isman said. He concluded: "We worked hard during the elections last year to convince people to give the system a chance ... It has come to nothing — nothing but empty promises."

STAR on Moutse Issue

In an editorial *THE STAR* says that the country's unrest is "so endemic" one might expect to the government to "to go to some lengths to avoid creating new focuses of dissension." It, however, is doing the precise opposite in decreeing that Moutse be incorporated into KwaNdebele. For the first time, the editorial says, the area has erupted into violence, and "it is so pointless one could weep." The Moutse leaders believe their area is being handed over as a reward to KwaNdebele for accepting independence, thus helping to fulfill the "grand apartheid" scheme. But whatever the reasons, the editorial says, the move "provides an object lesson in how to radicalise a quiescent rural community." To persist with the move "seems like madness," the editorial concludes.

BEELD on Voting Rights

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 18 December says in an editorial that "blacks in South African who think that equal voting rights is the alpha and omega of a happy dawn are mistaken." Actually one-man, one-vote could cause more misery than what they are accustomed to under the apartheid policy. This warning comes from well-known black U.S. journalist William Raspberry, who visited South Africa recently. What is necessary is the uplifting of the so-called underprivileged class and the creation of a stable political system in which every national group can exercise its political rights in matters affecting it, but in which minority rights will be protected. Concluding, it says "this is not an unattainable ideal."

BEELD on Landmines

In the same edition, *BEELD* asks in its political column by Piet Muller: "Is a new front being activated on South Africa's

northern border?" This is the reaction of many people to the most serious of a series of landmine explosions this weekend. The ANC would like to say that it is capable of opening a war front. This action would emphasize its view that South Africa is about to collapse at any moment. "The fact is that the ANC does not have the capability to open up a war front on the northern border." It knows that it cannot take South Africa by force. Its main aim is to create propaganda. Concluding, the column says: "The incidents on South Africa's border must be played according to the rules of a propaganda struggle rather than the rules of an armed struggle."

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Opens Trade Summit in Lusaka

MB181229 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda said today that the eastern and southern African subregion has the capacity to achieve economic independence despite the world recession. Dr Kaunda said all that was needed to achieve that independence was political will, collective operation, policy coordination, and commitment to restructuring and integrating the subregion's economy. Opening the summit [words indistinct] of the PTA [Preferential Trade Area] for eastern and southern African states at Mlungushi Hall today, Dr Kaunda noted that the PTA treaty provides an upgrading of the subregion into a common market for 1986 (?and assured) that this could be done if the member-states worked in unison and had faith in themselves.

Zimbabwe's Mugabe Arrives

MB181210 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has arrived in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, to attend a conference of the Preferential Trade Area, PTA. He was met at Lusaka airport by Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda; government officials; the Zimbabwean minister of energy, water resources and development, Comrade Kumbirai Kangai; and other Zimbabwean officials attending the meeting.

Leaders of the PTA member-countries are gathering in Lusaka to review moves towards setting up a common market aimed at reducing dependence on former colonial masters and on South Africa. The conference marks the end of an 18-month operation (?phase) designed to turn the forces of the common market into reality. The leaders of the 13-member PTA are expected to wind up business for the year and make plans for next year. The PTA was established in 1981.

Letter Bomb Addressed to COSATU Found in Lusaka

MB181206 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 18 Dec 85

[Text] A government spokesman confirmed today that a letter bomb addressed to the South African Congress of Trade Unions

[COSATU] was recovered at Lusaka's main post office yesterday. The spokesman said that the letter bomb, in a white envelope, bore two stamps and had been posted from Lobatse, in Botswana, on December 5.

The spokesman said the bomb contained a Christmas card with the message Christmas Day to (?blow out) [words indistinct] mosquitoes [words indistinct].

ZIMBABWE

White Officers Oppose Confrontation With RSA

*MB190538 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0436 GMT
19 Dec 85*

[Text] Harare, Dec 19, SAPA — Senior white officers in the Zimbabwe Defence Force this week told the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe they were not prepared to commit their forces against South African Troops should the SADF cross the border in reprisal for the landmine blast which killed six on Sunday.

It was learnt from highly-placed sources in Harare yesterday that many of Mr Mugabe's senior officers in command of key units in the Zimbabwe Armed Forces, have stated openly and in private that they will not become involved in a conflict with South African soldiers.

They made their stand clear at a meeting with Mr Mugabe in Harare on Tuesday. They were blunt about the reality of the situation.

Although loyal to him, if it meant "open war" with the South African Defence Force they were not prepared to commit their men against vastly superior forces. Mr Mugabe warned that they could face court martial if they did not lead their men against the SADF.

Eventually however, the situation was defined in the light of the forthcoming talks announced by the South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, between Zimbabwe Army commanders and South African officers.

Apparently many of the white officers controlling Zimbabwe forces warned Mr Mugabe of the dangers of the South African air force bombing Harare should a conflict arise.

Sources said a senior officer told Mr Mugabe during their meeting a SADF retaliation on Zimbabwe would be calamitous. Others had remarked it would be "madness" to allow it to happen.

After argumentation Mr Mugabe apparently sat down and then accepted the view of his officers — many who had fought against him before Zimbabwe gained independence.

The officers believed negotiations with the SADF were important and that ANC members should be expelled from Zimbabwe. Mr Mugabe is said to have repeatedly stated at the meeting he was not aware of ANC caches in his country and if there were he was against them. However he "assumed" the ANC terrorists that had planted the landmines in the far northern Transvaal could only have moved through Zimbabwe.

RSA 'Acknowledges' Position of No ANC Bases

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[Text] The South African Government has acknowledged Zimbabwe's restated position that it has no bases for South African freedom fighters. In a statement, the South African foreign minister, Pik Botha, said his government made representations to Zimbabwe following landmine explosion in the northern Transvaal province near the border with Zimbabwe. Seven people were killed and four others were injured during the blast. [numbers as heard] This prompted the racist regime to issue threats to invade Zimbabwe alleging that the mines were planted by South African freedom fighters operating from this country.

Zimbabwe has time and again made it clear that it does not have any bases for the freedom fighters to launch attacks against South Africa. It stressed that all its assistance to fighters is handled through the OAU.